

CHA Neighborhood News

Rent Moratorium Waiver Update

On August 26, 2021 The U.S. Supreme Court ended the pandemic-related federal moratorium on residential evictions that were put in effect by President Joe Biden's administration. In June, the justices, left in place a prior ban that expired at the end of July. Before their decision was made, the moratorium by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) would have remained in effect until Oct. 3, 2021.

With this new decision by the Supreme Court, housing authorities can begin taking actions and terminating leases of individuals who owe outstanding past due balances. It is important that residents with account balances, contact the office to discuss the matter and to get information on rental and utility assistance that is now available to help prevent evictions. Residents who have not contacted the office previously regarding rent or their accounts are strongly encouraged to do so as soon as possible. You may call us at 662-328-4236. Email us at colhou@chauthority.org or come by the office to handle rent and housing related affairs. Failure to respond and take action can lead to serious consequences even homelessness.

In the midst of the pandemic, it is our duty to assist people by providing shelter, but on the other hand it is the responsibility of individuals being provided the shelter to properly follow the rules and do their part to maintain it. The office is still open and services are being provided by phone, email, and in person. Please let us know if we can help you in any way possible.



Important Dates:

- 09/09 5:00 pm Parent meeting at Shield Sims for Southside residents
- 09/11 Rent Assistance Fair 9:00-1:00 at East Columbus Gym

Many took the rent moratorium as not having to pay. Now they will.



FREE

RAMP
ERA 1

Rental Assistance Fair

Agents on-site to help individuals affected by COVID-19 with applications.

LOCATION: East Columbus Gym
207 Lawrence Drive, Columbus, MS

Saturday, Sept 11

9 AM TO 1 PM

Organized by:
MS Housing Partnership

Sponsored by:
Mayor & City Council
Sen. Angela Turner-Ford
Rep. Kabir Karriem
Supervisor Leroy Brooks
Columbus Housing Authority

SCAN HERE to view more
info on RAMP-ERA or
visit ms-ramp.com



MISSISSIPPI HOME CORPORATION

Documents to Bring with You:

ALL APPLICANTS

1. Valid ID (e.g., driver's license, state ID card, passport)
2. Lease (current, executed, and with dates, rent amount and address) and any extensions. If current, written lease is not available, then bring utility bill for residence and documentation showing that rent has been paid (bank or credit card statements, check stubs, etc.).
3. Landlord's contact information (preferably e-mail address)
4. Proof you are at risk of homelessness or housing instability:
 - Past due or eviction notice from landlord;
 - Proof of medical bills preventing payment of rent or utilities; or
 - Proof of reliance on credit cards or payday lenders for household necessities.

****NOTE: If you do not have any of these documents but are at risk of homelessness or housing instability, we will have a form you can complete.***

5. Income documentation for 2020 (preferably IRS Tax Return 1040) or 2021 (for last 60 days) for each member of the household age 18 years or older, including:
 - W-2 or 1099
 - Paystubs
 - Bank statements showing income
 - Direct payments for services for self-employed individuals
 - **Documentation of Social Security benefits, annuities, insurance policies, retirement funds, pension, disability or death benefits and other similar types of periodic receipts**
 - **Documentation of public assistance benefits**
 - Documentation of child support, alimony or foster care payments

****NOTE: If income documentation is not available or you have zero income, we will have forms you can complete.***

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENT FOR APPLICANTS WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED OR RECEIVING OTHER STATE BENEFITS

1. **Unemployment benefits documentation:** For any member of the household who has qualified for unemployment benefits, documentation from MDES or other state unemployment agency.
2. **Determination/benefits letter from TANF, WIC, SSI, SNAP, Medicaid or Head Start.**

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS FOR THOSE NEEDING UTILITY ASSISTANCE

1. Most recent utility bill(s)



Maintenance Reminders



Contractual work

CHA is continuing with the installation of Kitchen Cabinets and Exhaust Fans in one bedroom units at Jesse Cater, T.V./ James and W.M Washington. Notices will be provided when the contractors inform us of their schedule to do so.

HUD is now requiring that all public assisted living properties have Carbon monoxide/ Smoke alarm detectors installed in every bedroom. To be in compliance, we will start this process by mid- September. Please watch for notices of scheduled installations.



Garbage/furniture disposal



We need all residents to please be mindful of how to properly dispose of cooking oil. Please use proper containers instead of dumping it down the kitchen sink, throwing it out windows or behind the units.



The city has provided news articles about how to dispose of old furniture and any items other than trash. Please follow the requirement to avoid fines being added to your account.

\$25.00 fines are still being added to accounts of residents who fail to keep their area around their unit clean, have items on the porch other than outdoor furniture and leave wheeled trash carts on the front or on the curb after trash pick-up.

After Hour Maintenance Calls

When maintenance is contacted after hours or during the weekends, please keep in mind that there will be possible delays in the time in which they arrive to your unit and the time you call due to other service calls being responded to, travel between calls and the need to locate materials and parts. Maintenance may not be able to complete all repairs requested due to the time in which they are responding, vendors not being available, and the type of repairs being made requiring more time and persons to complete the work. They may also have to return at a later day and time to complete the repairs.

Due to safety concerns of COVID 19 for staff and our tenants, we will only be completing emergency service calls which will reduce our presence and entering the units until further notice.

We apologize for any inconveniences. Please be patient with us as we keep everyone safe!



Resident Services/Occupancy Corner

All Girls Matter



Starting in September, new season of All Girls Matter designed with -14) in mind to bring on personal development and goal achievement. We normally meet twice a



currently open to new girls. If you have a daughter that might be interested, contact the main office 4236.



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Housekeeping

In accordance, with your lease agreement, the Authority has the right to do random inspections of units from time to time. It is the tenant's responsibility to always have a clean, decent unit that is free of any inspection violations. Tenants will receive a written statement of any charges, if any, for repairs or removal of non-approved alterations to the unit. Units that do not pass inspections are subject to eviction for lease violations.

Recertifications

Recertification time is upon us. We are currently sending out appointment letters. It is extremely important that your household keep their appointment. If you have not received a letter about an appointment by September 15, please contact the office. When you come to your appointment, please have everyone over the age of 18 with you, all household income, and most recent utility bills.



Friendly Reminders

The only thing that is allowed on your front porch is outdoor furniture. All grills are to be placed behind the unit when they are not in use. It is your responsibility as a tenant to keep the outside of your unit clean. Excessive trash in the yard can result in a \$25 maintenance charge for removal. Inoperable vehicles are subject to be towed at CHA request. If you have a vehicle that is not operable, please make plans to have it repaired or removed from the property.

Summer Camp at a Glance

Our Summer Camp at the Columbus Housing Authority had the opportunity to partner with our local YMCA through an outreach program grant. Our "World Changers" had a fun filled summer with a variety of organizations such as STEM, 4-H, The Art Council, Fireman, and a Spanish Instructor, that came out and did various activities with us. The primary purpose of our summer camps is educational, athletic, or cultural development. The environment allowed many children that have been locked up in the house for the last year due to COVID the opportunity to learn new skills in a safe and nurturing environment. Summer camp experience can have a lasting psychological impact on the development of a child, and we hope that our World Changers got just that out of our camp.



FREE ROSS PROGRAMS

THE KEY TO HOMEOWNERSHIP



The Columbus Housing Authority & Friendly City Resident Council ROSS SC Program appreciate the partnership with **Properties** and would like to give a **BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who assisted in making one of the residents of public housing transition to homeownership's dream into a reality. Let us help make your dream of homeownership a reality.

What is the Home Ownership Program The Columbus Housing Authority's Friendly City Resident Council ROSS – Service Coordinator Program seeks to prepare housing residents to successfully transition from renting to home ownership. the program's main purpose is to move families toward economic self-sufficiency so they can purchase and maintain a home.

ROSS SC coordinates the Home Ownership Program and will work with you to provide services such as:

- Budgeting to increase savings, money management, wealth creation, and repairing credit to increase credit scores and access to lending.
- Workshops and programming designed to assist you in navigating the home buying process

How Do I Participate?

Homeownership Workshops

Starting in October monthly workshops on the third Monday of the month from 5:30 to 6:30 pm will be offered via Zoom or conference call. (Times may change). In Person classes TBD.

Contact us!

Call the Friendly City Resident Council ROSS SC at (662) 251-7426

Email: jweir@friendlycityresidentcouncil.org

Columbus Housing Authority's New Flat Rents Effective January 1, 2022

City Limits- AMP 1

1 BR	2 BR	3 BR	4 BR	5 BR
\$478	597	806	1022	1040

Wm. Robert Terrace- AMP 4

1 BR	2 BR	3 BR
\$478	\$597	\$806

BACK TO SCHOOL

*Friendly City Resident Council
Resource Center can help...*

**TABLETS & HOTSPOTS
RENTALS**

COMPUTER LAB

**REFERRALS TO
OTHER SERVICES**

COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

*1515 4th Street South
Call 662-251-7426 for more information*

Just for the Elderly

Because many Senior Citizens choose to live alone, they find themselves faced with many challenges. Among these are, health, obtaining everyday essentials, household maintenance, poor nutrition, and loneliness, to name a few. Some seniors may experience lost of sight, lost of hearing, or other health issues that they don't recognize or that don't allow them to handle day to day living activities. Such things as not being able to read their prescriptions as to the subscribed amount to take, not remembering to take their medicine or their doctors' appointments.

Simple tasks, such as ordering groceries, running errands because they can no longer drive. Remembering to pay bills on time, causing delinquent charges to be added to account. They can no longer perform the day-to-day upkeep of the home due to physical limitations. Physical limitation can also lead to poor nutrition issues. Because physically they are unable to shop for nutritious foods, and not being able to prepare healthy meals for themselves. All this leads to unhealthy eating or resulting to missing meals altogether.

Not being able to get out and participate in enjoyable activities you once enjoyed causing the social life to decline. Being isolated from familiar activities and the people you know brings about depression and anxiety.

As concerned families, citizens, and neighbors, it is important that we help our Senior Citizens to address these challenges. Just because they are not making their circumstances known, is no excuse for not checking on them or just simply reaching out and lending a helping hand. The challenges they are facing now may become our challenges tomorrow.

To help with many of these issues, we have included information about our newest facility for seniors.



Seasons of Columbus is licensed with the state of Mississippi as an Independent Living and Assisted Living campus. Our greatest desire is to love people and provide a living situation where they can live with dignity and respect. Our seniors are more vulnerable today than ever before. A fixed income has its limits. Living with others has its limits, which out of necessity some have chosen to do.

We think of Seasons as time passing by... more so for the Seasons family, it is about adding flavor to life! At Seasons of Columbus we provide a home for those age 62 years and over. We also provide all meals, snacks, daily activities, and planned outings. We also have a loving staff that will clean our cottages and take care of your laundry. Being active and social with others is key for staying healthy and keeping a good quality of life. Our community is set up at present with three cottages and each cottage provides a home for eight residents in a suite setting. A Resident Assistant is on staff 24 hours a day.

When I was asked to be a part of this crew and discovered the vision for this campus, it was amazing. It has transitioned from taking care of our most vulnerable children to being a place for seniors. The campus provides other opportunities for other agencies to serve kids as well as great possibilities for the 114 acres that is Seasons of Columbus. In our gated community we have walking spaces, a pool, a gym, and a playground for the grand-kids.

Perhaps you have made it this far in this introduction to come to this: Seasons of Columbus can become your new home. A tour of our community is free, and all we ask is that you accept more information to read over together as a couple, individual or with others in your family. We would love for you to call us at (662) 657-1600 or email our Property Operations Manager, Charles Sylvest at Csylvest@cchdorp.org to find out more.