

# **COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS**

YOUR HOME, OUR COMMUNITY

Learn more about THA's monthly events here.

WINTER 2022

#### IMPORTANT NUMBERS:

Police Non-Emergency 609-989-4170

Emergency 911

Fire and Emergency Services 609-989-4038

**THA Security** 609-278-5040

**THA Work Orders** 609-278-5027

#### THA MANAGEMENT OFFICES:

Abbott/Josephson Apartments 609-278-5035

**Donnelly Homes** 609-278-5008

**French Towers** 609-278-5030

Lincoln Homes 609-278-5023

**Prospect Village/ Frazier Courts** 609-278-5020

**Turner Pointe** 609-427-8715

Wilson/Haverstick Homes 609-278-5036

# THA Partners with the Trenton Health Team to Beat COVID-19



The Trenton Health Team (THT) recently partnered with THA to offer COVID-19 and other vaccinations required for children to attend school. The THT brought their mobile van to Donnelly Homes for six weeks to make the COVID-19 vaccination available to residents in the surrounding community. THA continues to update staff and residents about where they can receive vaccinations, boosters, and COVID-19 tests.

THA also recently partnered with Our Pharmacy to provide COVID-19 tests for four weeks to all residents. The weekly clinics were held in the Abbott Apartments, French Towers, Josephson Apartments, Donnelly Homes Gymnasium, Prospect Village Community Room, and the Wilson Homes Community Room. THA is gearing up to offer all three vaccination and booster shots through a partnership with the NJ Department of Health. Thanks to the recent opening of the City of Trenton Neighborhood Clinic, our residents have a new location where they can receive COVID-19 vaccinations and tests.



## Mercer County Community College Offers FREE Certificate Programs

Mercer County Community College (MCCC) is working to break down the barriers preventing residents from enjoying the benefits of continuing education by launching the Community Development Block Grant. The program gives Trenton residents access to more than 50 FREE credential programs. MCCC also covers transportation and childcare costs. For more information, contact Andrea Bash, Program Coordinator for the MCCC Center for Continuing Studies at 609-570-3122 or basha@mccc.edu.

**About THA:** Trenton Housing Authority (THA) offers safe and affordable housing for Trenton residents. For more than 80 years, we've provided thousands of families with homes and the tools to help them improve their lives. THA's communities serve 1,700 households and 3,200 residents.

### Looking to apply for housing? Need to start a work order?

For more information, including paying your rent, call 609-278-5000 or visit THA-NJ.org.



# devolution of Our Residence dhe Memories of Our Residence



**Ms. Ethel Richardson** was born in Lawrenceville, NJ in August 1928. The 93-year-old who graduated from Trenton Central High School has six children, 11 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Early in her career, she was a waitress at the Nassau Inn and Ms. Richardson eventually retired from Trenton State College (now The College of NJ). She moved to the Trenton Housing Authority way back in November 1968, where she raised two of her children. Among her favorite activities are sharing her strong faith in God, spending time with her family, casino trips with her son, and crossword scratch-offs.

**Ms. Lavinia Gasque** was born in Trenton, NJ in August 1928 and also graduated from Trenton Central High School. Ms. Gasque has five children and has so many grandchildren and great-grandchildren that she lost count! She feels truly blessed to experience four living generations of family! Among the various jobs in her lifetime, Ms. Gasque notes her time as a Nurse's Aide at Helene Fuld Hospital, now known as Capital Health Regional Medical Center, as the most notable. She also worked for 25 years as a Crossing Guard. In her younger years, Ms. Gasque loved to sew, play jacks and jump rope with her grandchildren, and still loves crossword puzzles! Ms. Gasque is a member of Friendship Baptist Church in Trenton, NJ, and serves on the Mother's Board there. She has lived in the Trenton Housing Authority since 1965!



**Ms. Mattie Carter** was born in Portsmouth, VA in November 1928. She is 93 years old. Ms. Carter birthed three sons and two daughters and has many grandchildren, great-grands and even great-great-grandchildren! She has worked several small jobs but spent many years working at Princeton University as a cafeteria worker. Ms. Carter use to love to sew and play bingo at the bingo hall in her younger years. She attended church regularly where she sang on her church choir and was an active member of a gospel singing group. Ms. Carter still loves to read her Bible. She has been a Trenton Housing Authority resident for 45 years!

Congratulations Ms. Richardson, Ms. Gasque, and Ms. Carter! You're living history here at the Trenton Housing Authority!



## This Community Health Care Collaborative is Dedicated to Trenton Residents

The Trenton Health Team (THT) has been serving Trenton for more than a decade as a community health care collaborative dedicated to improving access to quality healthcare for city residents. The THT staff recently registered 100 senior/disabled residents and staff for HORIZON health coverage. The THT team continues to bring services for every member of our community!

# **Student Resident Spotlight**



#### Tysir Anthony Bellamy Campbell

is a 15-year-old student who attends 9th Grade Academy. He takes school very seriously and through his hard and consistent work, is regularly recognized on the honor roll and has excellent

attendance. Tysir attends the THA Afterschool Program daily and loves helping his family, which includes his mother, brother, and sister, and loves many sports with basketball being his favorite. He's looking forward to attending college to reach his career goal of becoming an electrical engineer. As an amazing young man who is polite, courteous, and humble, he sets an awesome example for our youth who attend our Afterschool Program. Tysir, we are so proud of you. Keep up the awesome work!



### Keandrea Hodges,

affectionately called Ms. Kee Kee by those who know her well, has lived at the Trenton Housing Authority since 2004. Ms. Kee Kee works as the THA Afterschool Program Coordinator

and the children love her because she takes excellent care of them. Ms. Kee Kee has worked at the College of New Jersey for 15 years and can be found whipping up something special at their vegan food station in the food services department. She is busy raising three sons and one daughter and still finds time to serve the community by feeding the homeless and preparing care packages for the Salvation Army. We are so appreciative of the awesome work Ms. Kee Kee is doing in our community and our Afterschool Program!

## If you are interested in sending your child to our THA Afterschool Program, please call our Coordinator of Recreation, Tonya Grant at 609-278-5025!

Through our partnership with the Capital Area YMCA, children receive a hot meal, soccer instruction through our partnership with PLAY SOCCER Nonprofit International (PSNI), and homework help from the Bonner Program Students who attend the College of New Jersey.



### **Thank You to Our Partners!**

THA thanks all of these valued partners for providing so many gifts and books to make the Holiday Season special for so many of our children:

Maker's Place, CCFA, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. Epsilon Upsilon Omega Chapter, the Trenton African American Fire Fighter Association, THA Staff, and The Open Box Broadcast Show and E. Hodo and A Momolu Educational Foundation Inc.

# Thanksgiving at THA

THA was blessed to receive 112 complete Thanksgiving meals in beautiful bags, which were provided to our residents and neighbors in need. We thank our committed partners for all the wonderful donations; The Safe Haven, African American Chamber of Commerce of NJ, City Beef of Trenton, Huntler Management, and the Mercer Regional Pan-Hellenic Council.



# Partner Spotlight: Metro World Child

Metro World Child has been a partner of THA for several years. They donated toys, food, and more during their Holly Jolly Christmas events held at the Donnelly Homes Gymnasium and Wilson/Haverstick Homes. They visit our developments several times a year and our children always enjoy the activities. Metro World Child says "our mission is to help meet the needs of the children we serve, and each of our programs is developed specifically with that in mind. Everything we do is intentional and purposeful, and because of your support, we can adapt our programs for different parts of the world to meet the unique aspects of the cultures and environments in which we work."





### THA Resident Services Hosts Annual Christmas Party

Resident Services held a Christmas Party for the youth at the THA Afterschool Program and the children had a wonderful time! They enjoyed a hot meal, chatted with Santa and Mrs. Clause, and received many gifts. A very special Thank You to Krystal Cross, Michelle Bell, the members of PBA 105, all the officers of the Central Medical Unit, and Sgt. Barnes of CMU for providing all the awesome toys, bikes, hoverboards,

gift cards, and clothing for our children. They were overwhelmed with the love you showed them. The smiles on their faces were priceless!



### Planning for a New Year: The Family Self-Sufficiency Program

The Family Self-Sufficiency Program (FSS) is a program that promotes independence, self-sufficiency, and goal setting among THA residents. The mission of the program is to help THA residents set and achieve short- and long-term goals, one family at a time, through one-on-one counseling and referrals to supportive service providers. FSS helps residents obtain stable employment and improve financial literacy through educational workshops on achieving homeownership, pursuing vocational training or higher education, and so much more.

During December, participants gathered to reflect on 2021 and to plan for the upcoming year. It was an opportunity for participants to strengthen bonds and create new relationships with their neighbors. For more information, contact FSS Coordinator, Lineuri Placencia at 609-278-7783.







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## **Tyron's Good Feetz Project**

This foundation was founded when a young man named Tyron Haggard died suddenly from an asthma attack. Tyron was very passionate about sneakers so Tyron's parents decided to honor him by starting Tyron's Good Feetz Project to provide fashionable footwear to underprivileged youth. Tyron's Good Feetz Project sponsored 20 THA residents, each receiving a brand-new pair of sneakers and amazing school supplies.



If you're interested in signing your son or daughter up for our next Fall Co-Ed Basketball League, please contact Tonya Grant, Coordinator of Recreation, at 609-278-5025.

## **THA's Fall Co-Ed Basketball League**

The THA holds a Fall Co-Ed Basketball League each year. Our most recent league included four middle school teams and four high school teams with approximately 75 girls and boys. Thanks to our generous sponsors, we provided two official referees for each game, team t-shirts, and trophies for the Runner Up and Champion of both divisions.

The eight sponsors that made it all happen were MCM Entertainment, Action Jackson, Trenton Meat Farm, Risk Takers, Moore Power, The Father Center of NJ, Edward Woods and Co., and Trust by Tony & Keisha. The 2021 Middle School Division Champion team was sponsored by Trust by Tony & Keisha and the High School Champion team was sponsored by the Trenton Meat Farm.