

# HCVP Newsletter

HANO Housing Choice Voucher Program Newsletter - Summer 2018 Edition



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## HANO Announces New HCVP Executive Team

The Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) now has a new leadership team for the Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP). Dawn D. Lapeyrolerie (Domengeaux) has been appointed as the Director of HCVP and Client Services, and Laila Darby will serve as the Deputy Director of HCVP and Client Services for the agency.

As the Director of HCVP and Client Services, Lapeyrolerie is responsible for managing over 18,000 participating families. She directs the administrative, contract fulfillment and compliance, staff development, customer service, and the community and government relations aspects of the program's operations. She previously served as the Interim HCVP Co-Director prior to this position.

Additionally, Lapeyrolerie serves as the Director of the Client Services Department, overseeing the Homeownership Program and coordinating community supportive

services for residents across HANO communities.

With over 25 years of experience in the affordable housing industry, Laila Darby serves as the Deputy Director of HCVP. In her current role, Darby assists in the management of admissions, special programs, special projects, inspections, administration, and continued occupancy in the HCVP Department. Darby is also responsible for overseeing projects in the Client Services Department.

In 2017, the HCVP Department was reorganized to establish and consistently conform with the best and most productive industry standards. Changes to the department include substantial emphasis on improved customer service delivery and program performance.

For more information on the HCVP Department, visit the HANO website at [www.HANO.org](http://www.HANO.org).

## HANO REINSTATES SECTION 8 RESIDENT COUNCIL

In conjunction with the HANO Board of Commissioners and Executive Director Gregg Fortner, HANO's Section 8 Resident Council was legally re-instated by the Louisiana State Legislature last year. Led by President Sharon Jasper, the Resident Council consists of seven resident leaders who represent over 18,000 participating HCVP families.

Originally launched in 2013, the Council strives to improve the quality of life and satisfaction of HCVP residents across the city while also fostering open communication between residents, landlords, and caseworkers.

To report any concerns or comments regarding Section 8 housing, please call (504) 670-3482. In case of emergency, contact President Sharon Jasper at (504) 344-8022 or [sharon.jasper66@gmail.com](mailto:sharon.jasper66@gmail.com). Appointments are available on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday only.





## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

# HANO'S CNI SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Housing Authority of New Orleans is proud to announce the expansion of the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (CNI) Scholarship Awards Program for public housing and HCVP residents across all HANO communities.

Under the program, up to \$2,000 scholarships are available to graduating high school seniors or working adults who plan to enroll in an accredited two or four year college or trade/technical school. High school seniors must have a minimum 2.5 GPA, and have the endorsement of their school guidance counselor on their application to qualify for the scholarship program.

The application deadline is at least 60 days prior to your tuition due date. Scholarships will be provided directly to your school choice once enrollment is verified.

The Scholarship Program is open to **ALL HANO** assisted residents (Public Housing and HCVP/ Section 8 Participants). Children of HANO employees living in public housing or participants in the HCVP are also eligible to apply, and should contact the Department of Client Services directly for more information. To review program guidelines and priorities, and to request a copy of the application package, contact Iris Conerly at (504) 670-3434 or [iconerly@hano.org](mailto:iconerly@hano.org).

## SAVE THE DATE

# DILLARD TO HOST 12TH ANNUAL HOUSING FAIR

On October 20th, Dillard University's Office of Community Development and the Finance Authority of New Orleans will partner with more than 70 vendors from the housing, insurance, banking, and health care industry for the 12th Annual Housing, Health, and Community Resources Fair. The event is free and open to the public, and will be held on Dillard's

## HCVP RESOURCES & POLICIES

### Landlord Portal



**WEBSITE:**  
[www.hano.org/landlord\\_portal.aspx](http://www.hano.org/landlord_portal.aspx)

Launched in 2013, HANO's Landlord Portal allows HCVP landlords to easily access their contact information in addition to viewing payment history, unit details, pertinent information pertaining to specific families currently housed by the landlord, and more!

### Housing Choice Connect



**WEBSITE:**  
[www.hano.org/HousingChoiceConnect/](http://www.hano.org/HousingChoiceConnect/)

Redeveloped in 2016, the Housing Choice Connect program allows HCVP voucher holders and participating landlords to easily search through or add rental properties without reviewing an extensive list.

### Go Section 8



**WEBSITE:** [www.GoSection8.com](http://www.GoSection8.com)

Find a great place to live with the largest affordable housing listing service in the nation - whether you have a Section 8 voucher or are just looking for a good deal.

### HUD's Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)



In October 2016, HUD finalized a new rule to protect the housing of survivors of domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. VAWA provides protections for Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) and Project-Based Voucher (PBV) applicants, tenants, and participants from being denied assistance on the basis or as a direct result of being a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.



Dillard University's Housing Fair

campus at the Atrium Exhibit Hall from 10am to 3pm.

Featured exhibitors include LSU Health New Orleans, Whitney Bank, Capital One Bank, AARP, Regions Bank, Enterprise Community Housing, Sodexo, Iberia Bank, Blue Cross Blue Shield, United Healthcare, and many more.

# WELCOME HOME

HANO assists HCVP & Public Housing residents in achieving their dream of homeownership



For many families, owning a home is a lifelong dream. HANO's Client Services Department strives to assist in making that dream a reality for many residents through the agency's Homeownership Program.

The Homeownership Program provides a variety of resources to assist HANO families' transition from public housing and Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) participants to homeowners. It was created to assist public housing and Section 8 residents in becoming first-time homebuyers. The program has expanded in recent years to assist with the planning and marketing of homeownership units developed in conjunction with HANO redevelopment programs, and includes several components: Homebuyer Preparation; Homebuyer Assistance; and Marketing and Sales.

Last month, Janelle Warren, a mother of two sons, fulfilled her dream of becoming the first homeowner in her family through HANO's Homeownership Program. Ms. Warren recently joined the Homeownership Program, and successfully purchased her home in May 2018.

"Buying a home can be such a challenging and scary process, but HANO's Homeownership Counselors were very helpful throughout the process," said Warren.

After completing the intake and assessment process, Ms. Warren was referred to the Lower Ninth Ward Neighborhood Empowerment Network Association (NENA) for homebuyer preparation classes, including financial fitness and homebuyers education. "My experience with the staff at NENA was very positive. Not only did they prepare me for the homebuying process financially, the NENA staff was also very resourceful and accommodating," said Warren.

After months of preparing the necessary paperwork and financial planning, Ms. Warren has completed the purchase of her home located in New Orleans East and has officially moved in with her two sons.

For more information on HANO's Homeownership Program, visit [www.HANO.org](http://www.HANO.org).

## HOW TO PROTECT YOUR KIDS FROM LEAD POISONING?

# 4M

households have children living in them that are being exposed to high levels of lead

*Lead is highly toxic. When ingested, especially by children, it can lead to a range of serious health problems including brain and organ damage.*

### What is the Lead Abatement Program & Eligibility Requirements?

- The Lead Abatement Program will help you remove or reduce the amount of lead in the home
- You may be eligible if you rent or own a home or apartment that was built before 1978
- You will need to meet certain income requirements
- You must also have a child under the age of 6 who spends 10 or more hours a week in your home

**For more information on joining the FREE Lead Abatement Program, call (504) 568-8254 or visit [ldh.la.gov/lead](http://ldh.la.gov/lead).**



## INTERESTED IN STARTING YOUR OWN BUSINESS?



Join HANO's Free 10-Week Resident Entrepreneur Training Initiative (RETI) Program!

**APPLY TODAY!**

Visit [www.RETIPROGRAM.org](http://www.RETIPROGRAM.org) to download an application!



## CONTACTS

### Main Office

(504) 670-3300  
4100 Touro Street  
New Orleans, LA 70122

### HANO PD Hotline

(504) 670-3372

## UPCOMING HOLIDAY CLOSURES

September 3, 2018 - *Labor Day*  
November 12, 2018 - *Veteran's Day*  
November 22, 2018 - *Thanksgiving Day*  
December 25, 2018 - *Christmas Day*



### HANO Housing Choice Voucher Program

4100 Touro Street  
New Orleans, LA 70122

## HUD-VASH UPDATE

# HANO Awarded Four Additional HUD-VASH Allocations

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recently awarded four additional vouchers to HANO as part of HUD's Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) program.

"HANO takes great pride in continuing the commitment of providing affordable and sustainable housing for the brave men and women who served our country," said HANO Executive Director Gregg Fortner. "We look forward to our continued partnership with HUD, and acknowledge the Department for their relentless efforts in addressing veteran homelessness within our community."

The HUD-VASH program is designed to assist homeless veterans in locating permanent housing through HUD's rental

assistance program, and connects them with case management and clinical services at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical centers in the community. The eligible veterans will be identified by the VA, and referred to HANO to determine their income eligibility and facilitate the leasing of dwelling units that accommodates the family's needs.

In 2018, an additional four vouchers were awarded to HANO, and increased the cumulative allocation to 347. To date, 277 veterans and their families are currently housed under the HUD-VASH voucher program.

For more information on the HUD-VASH voucher program, visit [www.HUD.gov](http://www.HUD.gov) or [www.HANO.org](http://www.HANO.org).

