

APRIL 2022

# IN THE NEWS

THE WILMINGTON HOUSING AUTHORITY'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



## WILMINGTON HOUSING AUTHORITY AT A GLANCE

Welcome to the Wilmington Housing Authority's (WHA) Quarterly Newsletter.

The WHA is the largest direct provider of affordable housing opportunities in the State of Delaware. We are committed to developing, providing, and managing safe and affordable housing for low-income families in the city of Wilmington.

During the first quarter, the WHA continued to promote social distancing and COVID-19 safety practices based on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines. To further support our staff in following guidelines, our Human Resource Team conducted staff trainings, updated HR forms and other tools with COVID-19 guidelines, and updated policies and procedures to maintain the health and safety of residents and employees.

The WHA also raised \$3.5 million from grants and awards to further support housing initiatives. We also began Phase II of our Reach Riverside Project. This project is a partnership between The WRK Group, Pennrose Management Company, DiSabatino Construction, Harkins Builders, and the City of Wilmington to build over 250 new energy efficient homes in the Riverside section of Wilmington.

Please keep reading for more updates, stories, and resources from the Wilmington Housing Authority.

### WHA Resources

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- 06 Community Resources
- 07 Employment Opportunities

### Featured Articles

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- 04 Low Income Public Housing (LIPH) Hosts "Be Kind" Day

# WHA RESIDENT BECOMES A FIRST TIME HOMEBUYER

In 2016, WHA resident, Nicole Lolley, registered for the Family Self-Sufficiency Program to begin her journey to homeownership and financial empowerment. While in the program, Nicole learned how to budget her finances, has decreased her debt and increased her savings.

Although she was hesitant about enrolling in the Family Self-Sufficiency Program at first, the program has become a major resource in helping her achieve her financial goals. "I didn't know much about buying a house," stated Nicole. "However, after attending the monthly Homeownership Workshops, something sparked inside of me that made me believe that I could achieve buying a house." Through hard work, dedication, and learning tools, Nicole purchased her first home in March 2022 and became the first person on her mother's side of the family to become a homeowner.

Nicole also stated that "The financial classes were key for me. They taught me how to save and how to use credit. If I could encourage anyone in the program, I would say for you to save your money and bring as much money as you can to the table. I would also say that the journey is worth it. I've changed my family legacy by having a home I can pass down to my children."



## THE WILMINGTON HOUSING AUTHORITY PROMOTES FIRE SAFETY

WHA continues to put fire safety first. All buildings are equipped with smoke detectors and sprinklers. Employees continue to play a major role in assisting in the fire safety of their perspective offices. Also, please avoid the following as they are considered fire hazards.

 **OVERLOADED PLUG SOCKETS & EXTENSION CORDS**

 **CLUTTERED DESKS & ROOMS MEAN MORE COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS**

 **SPILT DRINKS ON ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT**

 **KEEP HEATERS 3 FEET FROM ANY OBJECT. DON'T LEAVE UNATTENDED**

Contact 911 and your area SWEEPER in the event of a fire. For WHA Security, please call (302) 420-4617.



# IN-PERSON CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

The Alzheimer's Association support groups, conducted by trained facilitators, are a safe place for people living with dementia and their care partners to develop a support system, exchange practical information on challenges and possible solutions, as well as talk through issues and ways of coping.



Starting in April 2022, the Alzheimer's Association Delaware Valley will host an in-person caregiver support group every second Saturday of the month from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM.

The support group will take place at the Police Athletic League of Wilmington (3707 N. Market Street, Wilmington, DE 19802) in the 1st Floor Multi-Purpose Room.

Visit [alz.org/delval](https://alz.org/delval) to learn more about care giver programs and resources. To further extend your network of support, visit ALZ connected at [alzconnected.org](https://alzconnected.org).

# DEHAP RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WORKSHOP

The DEHAP Rental Assistance program provides emergency housing assistance to renters affected by shutdowns, layoffs, reduced work hours, or unpaid leave related to the COVID-19 health crisis. Eligible Delawareans can receive up to \$2,000 per month in assistance.

To assist with the application the Delaware Legal Workshop Series in partnership with the Delaware Libraries Partners is hosting the following sessions on how to complete the application.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 23RD

**In Person:** Dover Public Library

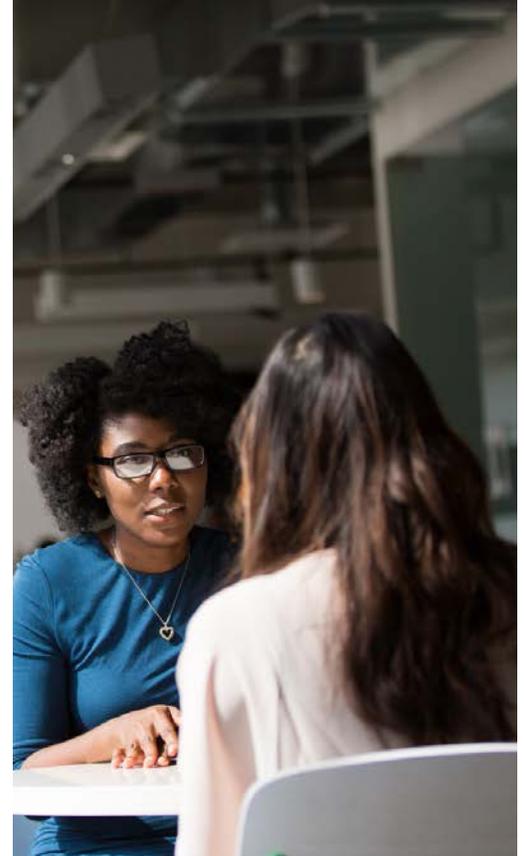
**Watch Party:** Georgetown & Route 9 Libraries

## SATURDAY, MAY 21ST

**In Person:** Route 9 Library

**Watch Party:** Georgetown & Dover Libraries

Go to [delawarelibraries.org/legalworkshopseries2022](https://delawarelibraries.org/legalworkshopseries2022) for more information or to register.



# WHA RECOGNIZES STAFF MEMBERS FOR TEAMWORK

The Wilmington Housing Authority would like to thank the following staff members for their dedication and teamwork. We appreciate all you do to support our commitment to we're committed to developing, providing, and managing safe, and affordable housing for low-income families in the city of Wilmington.

## DECEMBER

- |                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Juan Sanchez    | Rafael Padilla   |
| Raymond Santos  | Sean Gallagher   |
| Mike Clark      | Al Spady         |
| Francis Thomas  | Felix Wilkins    |
| Andrew Johnson  | Annette Brown    |
| Edwina Cottman  | Laverne Hanson   |
| Janice Maxson   | Sandi Rosmini    |
| Theodore Brooks | Jessica Clarkson |
| La-Don Walker   | Kathi McGinnes   |
| Jessica Baynard | Yolanda Bryson   |
| Bridget Brown   | Tracey Childress |
| Rhonda Johnson  | Tyrone Malcom    |
| LeKeisha Watson | Darniece Hampton |
| Tomika Steele   |                  |

## FEBRUARY

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Irmina Williams  | Ronnette Anderson |
| Sandra Countley  | Stacy Brooks      |
| Carol Southall   | Shanitha Wilson   |
| Yolanda Durant   | Janice Maxson     |
| Yvonne McKoy     | Vibhuti Talwar    |
| Vanessa Cora     | John Bristol      |
| Mary Hall        | Steven Hunter     |
| Damion Evans     | Leola Lightfoot   |
| Felipe Rodriguez | Artrice Green     |



## LOW INCOME PUBLIC HOUSING TEAM HOSTS "BE KIND DAY"

It's cool to be kind and celebrate it. The WHA Low Income Public Housing (LIPH) Team hosted "Be Kind Day" on April 8th to celebrate and encourage acts of kindness between staff members. WHA staff members were tasked with doing one simple act of kindness for at least one other staff member.

During the celebration, WHA staff members shared their acts of kindness with the team and how the experience made them feel. Staff members also got to enjoy some delicious food and amazing decorations.

Thank you to the LIPH Team for doing an amazing job putting the celebration together and all the staff members who participated.

# WHA PARTNERS WITH DSAAPD TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO RESIDENTS

The Wilmington Housing Authority has partnered with the Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities (DSAAPD) to expand the support and resources available to residents. Starting May 25, 2022, DSAAPD staff members will be onsite at several WHA locations to provide information and other resources to residents, including referrals, counseling options, and other resources.

DSAAPD's mission is to promote dignity, respect, and inclusion for older adults and people with disabilities. Residents can connect with DSAAPD staff members every other week in the community room of the following locations:

DAY	LOCATION	TIME
<b>TUESDAYS</b> (June 7th, June 21st, July 5th, July 19th, August 2nd, August 16th, August 30th)	<b>BAYNARD APARTMENTS</b> (309 W. 18th Street, Wilmington, DE 19802)	11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
<b>TUESDAYS</b> (June 7th, June 21st, July 5th, July 19th, August 2nd, August 16th, August 30th)	<b>CRESTVIEW</b> (2700 N. Market Street, Wilmington, DE 19802)	2:00 PM to 4:00 PM
<b>WEDNESDAYS</b> (May 25th, June 8th, June 22nd, July 6th, July 20th, August 3rd, August 17th, August 31st)	<b>COMPTON TOWERS</b> (325 E. 5th Street, Wilmington, DE 19801)	11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
<b>WEDNESDAYS</b> (May 25th, June 8th, June 22nd, July 6th, July 20th, August 3rd, August 17th, August 31st)	<b>HERLIHY APARTMENTS</b> (320 E. 5th Street, Wilmington, DE 19801)	2:00 PM to 4:00 PM
<b>THURSDAYS</b> (May 26th, June 9th, June 23rd, July 7th, July 21st, August 4th, August 18th, September 1st)	<b>PARKVIEW</b> (1800 N. Broom Street, Wilmington, DE 19802)	11:00 AM to 1:00 PM



## ALCOHOL REHAB HELP

Alcohol Rehab Help's website provides information for individuals working through recovery. The website provides information on how to prevent alcohol abuse and addiction, how to safely detox from alcohol, treatment for co-occurring disorders, and the difference between mental health treatment and substance use treatment. For more information, please visit <https://alcoholrehabhelp.org/treatment/detox/how-long/>

## DIVISION OF LIBRARIES EVENT CALENDAR

The Delaware Division of Libraries Events Calendar is available at [www.lib.de.us](http://www.lib.de.us). Visit the website to for more information on library events, trainings, programs, and other workshops offered at Delaware libraries.



## THE DELAWARE CAREER COMPASS

The Delaware Career Compass is an interactive booklet with resources and assessments for people looking for a fresh start in a new career or advancement in their current career. Visit [https://laborfiles.delaware.gov/main/lmi/publications/Career\\_Compass\\_2021-2022.pdf](https://laborfiles.delaware.gov/main/lmi/publications/Career_Compass_2021-2022.pdf) to access the guide.

## NAMI TRAINING PROGRAMS

The National Alliance for Mental Illness shares "Notice NAMI" monthly events via email on Eventbrite. The "Notice NAMI" webinars occur on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 1:00 PM. There are also other training programs for staff and families. For more information on monthly webinars, visit NAMI Delaware's Eventbrite page at <https://namidelaware.eventbrite.com>.





## WHA PARTNERS ARE HIRING

For more information or to apply for these positions, contact Ronnette Anderson at [RAnderson@whadelaware.org](mailto:RAnderson@whadelaware.org)

### BLOOM ENERGY

Bloom Energy is actively recruiting for up to 100 open green energy manufacturing assembly line and welding positions starting at \$18 per hour. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and be able to work in a fast paced manufacturing environment.

Bloom Energy's mission is to make clean, reliable energy affordable for everyone in the world. In addition to the salary, Bloom Energy offers employees free financial wellness services through the Stand By Me program. For more information or to apply to Bloom Energy, contact Ronnette Anderson at [RAnderson@whadelaware.org](mailto:RAnderson@whadelaware.org).

### DISABATINO CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

DiSabatino Construction Company is actively recruiting individuals for the YouthBuild Program. The YouthBuild Program focuses on education, occupational skills training, leadership development, and high-quality post-program placement. The program is designed as an alternative education program for youth between the ages 16 and 24 who did not complete high school or obtain a GED.

Participants will complete 2 internship positions over 4 years with Harkins Builders, Inc. and receive a salary of \$24,000 per year. The YouthBuild Program will also provide participants with education and career counseling, leadership training and development, the opportunity to obtain an industry-recognized certification, and access to other supportive services to further help them reach their goals.

Applicants must be between the ages of 16 and 24 at the start of the program and be available to start in May 2022. For more information or to apply for the YouthBuild Program, contact Ronnette Anderson at [RAnderson@whadelaware.org](mailto:RAnderson@whadelaware.org).

# DELAWARE STATE PARK IS RECRUITING FOR T.R.E.C.

The T.R.E.C. Program is a school-aged volunteer program that provides meaningful, hands-on projects as a means of connecting academic work with job readiness skills in a real-world workplace environment.



Students in the program will have the opportunity to work on projects that include trail maintenance, invasive plant ID and removal, litter pick up, park based projects, special event help, and programming assistance.

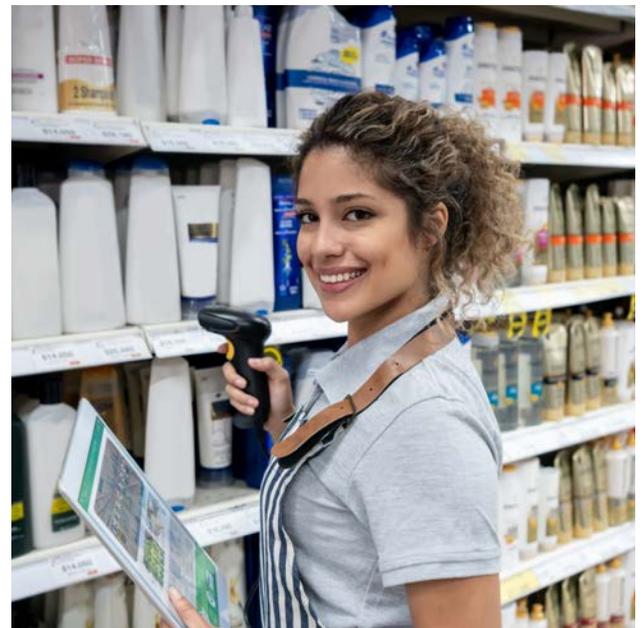
For more information or to apply for the program, please visit [www.destateparks.com/volunteer/workbasedlearning](http://www.destateparks.com/volunteer/workbasedlearning)

# WEGMANS IS HIRING IN WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

Wegmans is set to open its new Wilmington, DE location in Fall of 2022. The store will be hiring 450 employees for this location.

The store will be located at the intersection of Lancaster Pike and Barley Mill Road just outside of Wilmington. The store will include a delicious array of food options including a Burger Bar, Restaurant Foods Section, Sushi Bar, Fresh Produce and Seafood, and more.

Visit <https://jobs.wegmans.com/Wilmington> to apply now. Contact Wegmans at (302) 551-6101 with questions.



# DEPARTMENT OF LABOR JOB FAIR

The Department of Labor Job Fair will be sponsoring a job fair on April 27th from 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM. The fair will take place at Polytech High School at 823 Walnut Shade Road, Dover, DE and will host several employers from various industries. Enter the fair from the back of the school. Also, create a free Delaware JobLink profile by visiting [joblink.delaware.gov](http://joblink.delaware.gov).



# SECOND CHANCES RECORD CLEARANCE & EMPLOYMENT FAIR

The Delaware Center for Justice is hosting a record clearance and employment fair on Thursday, April 28, 2022 from 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Presented by Amazon and community partners, the fair will take place at the Route 9 Library (3022 New Castle Avenue, New Castle, DE 19720). Go to [BIT.LY/2NDCHANCESFAIR](https://bit.ly/2NDCHANCESFAIR) to pre-register to attend in-person or virtually. Walk-ins are welcome, financial assistance will be provided, and refreshments will be served. Email [Center@DCJustice.org](mailto:Center@DCJustice.org) with questions.



## THE WILMINGTON HOUSING AUTHORITY IS ONLINE

The Wilmington Housing Authority posts regular announcements and events on our website and Facebook page. Scan the QR codes to visit our website (<https://whadelaware.org/>) and our Facebook page.



WHA WEBSITE



WHA FACEBOOK PAGE