

RESIDENT Connection

NEWSLETTER FALL 2024



A message from MDHA's Executive Director

Fall is a time of change, as a new school year starts, the weather cools and leaves change colors. It's also a time when leaders step up to set examples of self-sufficiency, celebrate accomplishments and collaborate with community partners.

I would like to congratulate the MDHA residents and program participants who have graduated from the Family Self-Sufficiency program so far this year. Whether it's starting a business, increasing your credit score or buying a home, I applaud your dedication and the steps you have taken toward your full potential. I encourage others to follow your example by speaking with MDHA staff.

I would also like to recognize the MDHA residents who were elected to support their communities as Resident Association officers. Your leadership in working with MDHA staff and partners to supply resources, coordinate services and engage your neighbors is key to providing sustainable and healthy communities.

We saw this in action during National Night Out. Resident Associations at more than 10 properties worked with the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department, MDHA staff and other service providers to host events promoting police-community partnerships and neighborhood fellowship. It was a great day that highlighted the impact of working together.

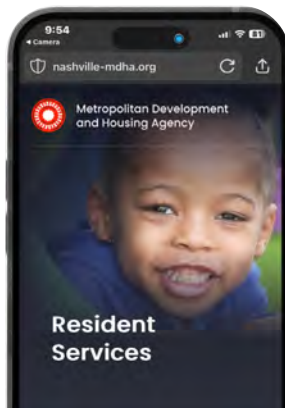
If you are interested in events and opportunities in your community, I encourage you to visit the Resident Services page on MDHA's website, as seen below. It is a great tool to get—and stay—involved, and I hope you will not only use it, but also share it with your neighbors.

Dr. Troy D. White
MDHA Executive Director

See What's Happening in Your Community

It's now easier than ever to learn about the programs available to you and hear about events happening in your neighborhood. The MDHA Resident Services Department has launched a new page on the MDHA website that features program information and an events calendar. Whether it's job training, financial planning or health and wellness resources, our staff are here to make sure you have the tools you need to be successful in ways that matter to you.

The calendar of events features details on food distributions, resource fairs, youth activities and other special events at MDHA properties. Scan the QR code below to check it out!



MDHA Resident Services Information Line

615-252-8527



Need help paying your bills?



The Metropolitan Action Commission (MAC) is now accepting applications for its household assistance program. Eligible families can get help paying their rent and utility bills like water and electric. To learn more or apply, scan the QR code above or call MAC's service center between 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday:

615-862-8860



New and Returning RA Officers Sworn In

Earlier this spring, elections were held for Resident Association officers at more than 20 MDHA properties. The votes were counted, and a celebration was held for the newly elected and re-elected officers with a dinner and installation ceremony this summer. Davidson County Juvenile Court Judge Sheila Calloway attended to swear in the officers to their three-year terms.



Resident Associations are made up of MDHA residents who volunteer their time to organize events and resources for their neighbors. If you're interested in getting involved with the RA at your property, please

contact MDHA Resident Association Coordinator Sonya Russell-Presley by emailing srussell@nashville-mdha.org or calling 615-252-8400, ext. 8604.



Congratulations to Resident Scholarship Recipients!

MDHA staff and members of Resident Associations at MDHA properties hosted a brunch to recognize scholarship recipients.

The four recipients of the Peaches Manning Scholarship are MDHA residents who graduated from area high schools this year.

Andrew is attending Tennessee State University and is studying civil engineering. Denise is attending Nashville State Community College and is exploring career options in the health care field. Elijah is attending Campbellsville University and is studying business administration and sports medicine. Donnika is attending Alabama A&M University and is studying psychology.

2024 is the 40th anniversary of the Peaches Manning Scholarship!

Staff also recognized and celebrated Rienne, the recipient of the Tennessee Association of Housing and Redevelopment Authority (TAHRA) Adult Continuing Education Scholarship.

The Peaches Manning Scholarship is funded by the Resident Associations at MDHA properties and is matched by MDHA. MDHA residents who are graduating from high school and pursuing a higher education apply for the scholarship and are selected by a committee.



YOUNG WOMEN HONORED

AT
LYDIA SOCIETY
TRUMPET BALL



Wearing gorgeous white gowns and accompanied by an escort of their choice, this year's LYDIA Society Assembly of Girls wowed guests as they entered the ballroom. At the end of the special night, Terreka, the 2023 Miss LYDIA Society, crowned Makenzi as the 2024 Miss LYDIA Society. The new queen was chosen to represent her classmates by a selection committee. Makenzi is a resident at MDHA's Levy Place. She is a Metro Nashville Public Schools middle school student who is passionate about health care and helping others. She is interested in pursuing a career in the medical field.



MISS LYDIA SOCIETY AND RUNNERS UP

The LYDIA Society is a coming-of-age organization designed to engage teenage girls living at MDHA properties and teach them about topics such as writing, technology and health. Prior to the Trumpet Ball, the participants take part in an eight-week summer program that includes specialized workshops led by Dr. Leah Alexander-Otukpe and the Meharry Medical College Master of Public Health program.

MDHA hosted LYDIA Society Trumpet Ball in partnership with Meharry Medical College School of Public Health, Vaccine for All and the Resident Associations at MDHA properties.



Celebrating Self-Sufficiency

MDHA's Rental Assistance Department hosted a celebration to congratulate recent graduates of the Family Self-Sufficiency program. Since the start of 2023, 21 participants in MDHA's Section 8 programs have graduated from the program. Several of those graduates became homeowners with the help of the skills they gained and the escrow account they accrued through the five-year program. Voucher program participants who are interested in learning more about this program can contact one of the MDHA program coordinators below.

Donna Anderson | danderson@nashville-mdha.org | 615-780-7013
Brittany Croom | bcroom@nashville-mdha.org | 615-252-6516



MDHA Communities Celebrate National Night Out

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign held on the first Tuesday in August to promote police-community partnerships. MDHA residents at more than 10 properties celebrated by getting together with neighbors and officers from the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department and other local law enforcement agencies to fellowship while enjoying free food, entertainment and fun activities.

MDHA is thankful for the staff, law enforcement agencies, partners and Resident Associations at MDHA properties for planning such wonderful community events.





METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AGENCY

P.O. BOX 846, NASHVILLE, TN 37202

MDHA STORIES

SCAN THE QR CODE TO WATCH EACH VIDEO!

#MEETMDHA

BIANCA



Bianca Tarantola is an MDHA employee driven by passion and curiosity and brings positive energy to everyone around her. She considers her work at MDHA a "full circle" moment, as she helps further a mission that once served her and her children.

bit.ly/MeetMDHABianca

BUILT FOR LEADERSHIP

ANGELA



Angela holds many titles like Resident Association Treasurer, Girl Scout Troop leader and Napier and Sudekum Transformation ambassador. While she spends most of her time giving back, her most recent title is one she achieved for herself: high school graduate.

bit.ly/BuiltForLeadership

#MEETMDHA

SHERONDA



Sheronda Wilson is a leader in MDHA's Resident Services Department who exemplifies the Agency's mission. As a supervisor at the MDHA Center in South Nashville, she has become a beloved figure in the Napier Place and Sudekum Apartments community.

bit.ly/MeetMDHASheronda



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Visit us online at Nashville-MDHA.org

