

FSS

JOURNAL

Spring 2017

GRHC SECTION 8 WAITING LIST OPENS JUNE 19-30

The Grand Rapids Housing Commission (GRHC) will open the waiting list for our Section 8 program June 19 through June 30. Apply online by logging on to www.GRHClist.org. The GRHC will also accept applications by phone—households can apply by calling 616/235-2622 June 19-30 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

For updates and complete information: www.grhousing.org

SECTION 8 HOMEOWNERSHIP PROGRAM ORIENTATIONS

All orientations will be held at Wyoming Public Library, 3350 Michael Ave. SW, Wyoming. All orientations are at 2:00 p.m. Orientation dates: 6/22/17 | 9/19/17 | 12/19/17

For complete program information: 616/450-4825 or grhousing.org/homeowner.html

USDA OFFERS SUMMER MEALS FOR KIDS & TEENS

Open to children 18 and younger, the Summer Meals Program is free and enrollment is not required. The Campau Commons Community Center, 821 South Division Avenue, participates in the program and will offer meals weekdays 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. from June 19 through August 18. For other sites: www.fns.usda.gov/summerfoodrocks



GRAND RAPIDS HOUSING COMMISSION
Family Self-Sufficiency Program
1420 Fuller Ave. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49507
616/235-2600

Gear Up for a Summer of FREE Family Fun!



2ND ANNUAL PARK PARTY OFFERS DOUBLE THE FUN!

The Grand Rapids Housing Commission is pleased to partner with the Campau Connection community collaborative and the Grand Rapids Urban League to host the 2nd Annual Park Party at Martin Luther King Park, 900 Fuller Avenue SE. The Park Party is free of charge and will be held from noon-4 p.m. on two dates, June 24 and July 22—attend one or both parties to enjoy music, food and fun. Both parties will also offer information about many helpful community resources.

Campau Connection brings organizations that serve the Campau Park neighborhood together so that we can build service capacity, avoid duplication of effort and offer programs, services and events that empower the community.

BAXTER'S STRAWBERRY JAMBOREE IS JUNE 15!

Baxter Community Center is offering a free Strawberry Jamboree on Thursday, June 15, 4-7 p.m., at Joe Taylor Park, 1030 Bemis St. SE. Bring the entire family for entertainment, art, food and games as well as information about housing

resources. Co-sponsored by Kent County HealthConnect, Blue Cross Complete of Michigan and Molina Health Care.

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS PLAY GROUPS!

Bright Beginnings offers free one-hour play groups for ages infancy through kindergarten entry. Groups are facilitated by a Parent Educator and are held at locations throughout Kent County. Parents or other caregivers attend the play group with their children and are encouraged to join in the fun, which includes activities, stories, songs and snack time. For complete information, please call 616/365-2276.

FREE MARANDA PARK PARTIES!

The WOTV Maranda Park Party schedule includes two free Kent County events:

- June 22, noon-2 p.m.—Lamar Park, 2561 Porter Street, Wyoming
- July 13, noon-2 p.m.—East Kentwood High School, Kentwood

Both parties will include entertainment as well as prizes and community resources. For details: <http://wotv4women.com/category/maranda/park-parties/>

Mental Health Resources



Mental health disorders are real, common and treatable. The organization Mental Health America reports that approximately 1 in 5 American adults and 13-20% of children will be diagnosed with a mental health disorder in a given year.

If you or a loved one needs mental health support, here are some ways to get help:

- Get a referral from your family doctor.
- Eligible veterans can get care through the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs. For information: 1-877-222-8387.
- Find affordable mental health services through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: <http://www.samhsa.gov/treatment> or call 1-800-662-4357.
- Contact Network 180, the community mental health authority for Kent County, to find out whether you are eligible for free or low-cost treatment and services on a sliding scale.
- Contact your workplace employee assistance program to get a referral to a mental health provider.
- Medicare offers a list of participating mental health professionals on its website: www.medicare.gov.

Resources for Substance Abuse Disorders

If you or a loved one needs support to overcome a substance abuse issue, call the Network 180 Access Center Helpline at 1-800-749-7720 to discuss your situation and find counseling and treatment resources. The Helpline is available 24 hours a day every day.

Job Training, Job Search and Budget Management Resources

Goodwill ACHIEVE Program

The ACHIEVE program strives to help motivated adults find employment. The program helps participants set career goals through skills and interest assessments and provides support to help them reach goals. Information sessions are held every Friday at 10 a.m. at 3777 Sparks Drive SE.

After acceptance into the ACHIEVE program, participants meet Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. to attend group activities and classes that focus on job readiness, job search, and computer and life skills. Goodwill links participants with local employers. For more information: 616/588-2213.



West Michigan Medical Assistant Registered Apprenticeship Program (MARAP)

The MARAP program provides training for a career as a medical assistant through classroom and simulation learning and work experience with a participating health care provider. Students in this one-year program will:

- Graduate with a Medical Assistant Certificate of Completion, a certificate of completion of apprenticeship from the U.S. Department of Labor, and qualify to earn a national industry-recognized credential.
- Immediately apply classroom learning in a clinical setting.
- Earn a wage while learning the skills needed to be successful in a high-demand medical assistant career.

For more information and to submit your application: www.westmiworks.org/ma. Application deadline: July 15, 2017; program begins January 2018.



West Michigan Works! Youth Employment Services

West Michigan Works! and its partners offer free programs that combine employment and training activities for youth ages 14-24. Each participant is matched with a career coach who will help them develop a career plan and work toward finding a job, finishing high school or a GED, and getting training beyond high school. Scholarships may be available. For more information and a complete list of Youth Employment Services locations: <http://www.westmiworks.org/information-for-job-seekers/youth-programs>



Women's Resource Center Employment Readiness and Job Search Programs

The Women's Resource Center, 616/458-5443, offers employment-related programs:

- Seeking Employment Together (SET) is a friendly and supportive group that meets weekly to discuss job search and life issues.
- The Skills for Success program is a one-week employability and life skills class. Topics include resume writing, interviewing skills, business attire and financial management.
- The Scholarship program helps women become self-sufficient through educational and training services.



Inner City Christian Foundation (ICCF) Financial and Home Ownership Classes

ICCF offers Financial Capabilities classes that cover money management, credit, banking basics, and debt reduction and saving. It also offers pre-purchase home ownership classes and foreclosure counseling. For details: (616) 336-9333.