

Ypsilanti Housing Commission February Newsletter

Ypsilanti Housing Commission

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What Does Home Mean to Me Contest !!!

What does home mean to you? We are inviting all residents in grades K - 12th to participate in the "What Does Home Mean to Me?" poster contest.

This contest invites residents to creatively express and share what home means to them. When you think of home, do you think of family, friends, fun?

To participate in the contest, all participants must submit a drawing, picture, or painting of what home means along with the signed release forms attached to the newsletter.

Drawings must be submitted on 22" x 28" paper. But don't worry, there will be paper and supplies available at the property management offices of each site.

There will also be markers, coloring pencils, and crayons available for residents to use.

To submit your drawing, please submit your poster and release form to property management or your FEP staff. Additional information is available in the newsletter.

Poster Contest Prizes

A winner will be selected from each grade, and each winner will receive a \$100 gift card. Winners will advance to the national level to compete for the national grand prize.

Thirteen posters will be selected from across the country to be featured in a "What Home Means to Me" calendar. One lucky Grand Prize winner will be invited to attend and be honored at the National NAHRO Conference in Washington, DC.

How's Your Mental Health?

The FEP team wants to check in on your mental well-being. We have created a form that you can submit to the FEP team for a mental health check-in.

The FEP team will review every mental health check-in and will follow up with any resources or services that can support your mental health.

In the event of a crisis, we encourage residents to contact any available FEP staff member, in addition to appropriate first responders (EMT, fire department, police department, etc.). Please use the QR code to submit your mental health check-in.



Financial Empowerment

Come learn about credit, creating a budget, purchasing a home, and more. Questions welcome!

Strong Future Resident Council

The next Strong Future Resident Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 6th, 2023, @ 5:00 PM at Sauk Trail.

Family Empowerment Program

→ What is the Family Empowerment Program?

The Family Empowerment program was created to provide individuals and families of the YHC with Individualized Supportive Services, which is done by working with our residents to promote self-sufficiency in three key areas - employment, education, and health/wellness.

→ What can the FEP help with?

FEP staff have varying focus areas, ranging from mental health coordination, education and wellness, senior support, and permanent supportive housing. Available services are quite varied: FEP hosts 6 food pantries a month (Sauk Trail, Hollow Creek, Towner), provides GED courses, afterschool tutoring, transportation, game nights, community events, case management, mental health counseling, financial literacy, and referrals for furniture, home essentials, car repair, assistance with DTE bills, and much more.

→ Who should I contact for support?

Each YHC community has FEP staff present. Listed below are the staff members in each community. In the event of a crisis, we encourage residents to contact any available FEP staff member in addition to appropriate first responders (EMT, fire department, police department, etc...).

New Parkridge:

- Christa Hughbanks, Mental Health Resident Services Coordinator: (734) 787-2412
- Melinda Miller, Permanent Supportive Housing Coordinator, (734) 787-0239

Hamilton Crossing:

- Lamar Thomas, Resident Services Coordinator, (734) 787-2609

Strong Future, Sauk Trail, Hollow Creek, Towner, Scattered Sites:

- Sergio Hernandez, Senior Resident Cares Coordinator, (734) 757-5962

***Please note as a reminder that the Family Empowerment Program works to assist residents with their housing needs, crisis situations, and community building. All and any case management is confidential unless the resident has a signed release of information form stating the information discussed may be shared with other parties. If there are concerns regarding program operations, please contact Mark Hammond, Director of the Family Empowerment Program at (734) 787-0290.**



U P C O M I N G

F E P

FOOD PANTRIES

JANUARY

Sauk Trail Pointe: 1/8 and 1/22, from 11am-1pm

Towner: 1/3 from 1:30-3pm and 1/17 from 10-Noon

FEBRUARY

Sauk Trail Pointe: 2/12 and 2/26, from 11am-1pm

Towner: 2/7 from 1:30-3pm and 2/21 from 10-Noon

The Family Empowerment Program & Food Gatherers

Brought to you by Operation Hope,
in partnership with the Family
Empowerment Program:



START PLANNING YOUR DREAM

Come learn about credit, creating
a budget, purchasing a home, and
more. Questions welcome!

Upcoming Free Financial Workshops:

February 1st from **6-7pm** @
New Parkridge, 831 Hilyard Robinson
Way, Ypsilanti

February 29th from **6-7pm** @
Hamilton Crossing, 596 S. Hamilton
St, Ypsilanti



FEP.

WANT MORE INFO? CONTACT MICHAEL RANDALL:
MICHAEL.RANDALL@OPERATIONHOPE.ORG



“What Home Means to Me” Poster Contest Entry Rules

Rules:

- Theme - "What Home Means to Me"
- **Size – All posters must be 22" x 28" and have a LANDSCAPE/HORIZONTAL orientation to be considered for national judging and may be featured in the 2025 “What Home Means to Me” calendar.**
- Media - Contestant may use any art media (marker, crayon, paint, collage, textiles, etc.), but please consider that posters will need to be packaged, mailed and reproduced.
- All entries must be mailed flat.
- All contestants must sign a release making their entry the property of NAHRO and permitting duplication/publication thereof. The release should be secured to the back of the entry.
- **All regional finalists must provide their NAHRO member ID number to be considered for national judging.**
- All regional finalists and national winners must sign a photo release waiver giving NAHRO permission to use their picture for online and print publication.
- All contestants are asked to provide a short narrative on the inspiration, vision, and importance of their poster design. The narrative should be secured on the back of the entry.
- Contestants name, grade level, and housing authority must be **written on the back of each poster entry** in addition to being listed on the release form also attached to the entry.
- NAHRO is only responsible for returning the original poster to the national grand prize winner. NAHRO is not responsible for returning posters except for the grand prize-winning poster.
- National winners will be selected based on how well the artwork uses the “What Home Means to Me” theme.

Eligibility and Selection Categories:

Contest participation is open to all children in grades K-12 residing in affordable housing assisted directly, supported under community development, or participants in affordable housing programs administered by a NAHRO member authority (i.e., public or Section 8-assisted housing CDBG, HOME, LIHTC). Entries must be created by only one person. Entries created by two or more people will not be accepted.

Age Categories:

Elementary: K to 5th grade;

Middle: 6th to 8th grade;

High: 9th to 12th grade

Contest Overview:

1) NAHRO member housing authorities submit their entries to their local/state NAHRO chapter. If your local/state NAHRO chapter does not hold a poster contest, contact your NAHRO regional council for more information regarding their poster competition.

2) Local/state NAHRO chapters may submit entries to their regional council.

3) The regional councils hold separate contests and send their top three winners (one from each age category) to NAHRO.

4) NAHRO holds a national contest to pick the 13 national winners.

IMPORTANT: All regional finalists must provide their NAHRO member ID number to be considered for national judging.

****If you don't know your member ID, please contact Member Services at memberservices@nahro.org.***

Local Chapter/State Competitions:

Housing authorities must be active NAHRO members to participate in the "What Home Means to Me" poster contest.

Housing authorities submitting entries to the national poster contest must first send entries to their local/state NAHRO chapter or NAHRO regional council.

While local state/chapter contests are optional, NAHRO encourages local/state NAHRO chapters to host their own poster contests and submit the winning posters to their regional council. If your local/state NAHRO chapter does not hold a poster contest, contact your NAHRO regional council for more information regarding their poster competition.

NAHRO will not accept submissions from individual housing authorities or state associations. Any submissions sent directly to NAHRO will be disqualified.

Regional Council Competitions:

Each regional council will determine a deadline for their poster contest entries and a date for regional judging. NAHRO is not involved in the scheduling or management of regional council contests. The eight regional councils will select three winners –one from each age category – and forward those winners to the national competition in Washington, D.C.

National Competition:

National honorees will be selected by a panel of judges assembled by NAHRO staff.

National honorees will be announced during Housing America Month in October. All eight NAHRO regions will be represented in the calendar.

National Prizes

The grand prize cover winner will also receive an iPad and a framed copy of their original artwork. The cover winner and one legal guardian will also receive a tour of Capitol Hill and attend NAHRO's Washington Conference in Washington, D.C. where he or she will be honored. The 12 national winners will each receive a \$100 Visa gift card.



Application

Name of Applicant-artist: _____

Address: _____

CityStateZip code _____

Housing Agency: _____

Age category: thththth Elementary: K-5 (___) Middle: 6-8 (___) High: 9 -12th (___)

Applicant's Age: _____

Name of Parent or Guardian: _____
(Required if applicant is under 18 years of age)

Conditions of submission:

Applicant and parent or guardian understand and agree that upon submission of the applicant's poster, the poster will become the sole property of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO). NAHRO shall have exclusive and full rights to copy, reproduce and distribute the poster in connection with its poster calendar and may retain the original of any poster. Applicant, and parent or guardian for and on behalf of applicant, hereby release and discharge NAHRO and any and all Regional Councils, State Chapters or other affiliates of NAHRO from any and all liabilities, claims, suits, or actions, including without limitation any claim to payment of compensation, in connection with NAHRO's possession, use, copying, reproduction, and/or distribution of the applicant's poster.

By signing this application below, applicant, and any parent or legal guardian signing on applicant's behalf, hereby indicate agreement to the conditions stated above. Any person signing as guardian further represents that he or she is fully and lawfully empowered to act as guardian for the applicant.

Signature of Applicant : _____

Signature of Parent Guardian: _____

Local Housing Agency Contest Representative Contact Information
(Local Housing Agency Office Only)

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

"What Home Means to Me"

Please write a short paragraph (100 words or less) explaining your poster.



NAHRO PHOTO RELEASE FORM

I hereby grant NAHRO permission to use my likeness in a photograph, video, or other digital media ("photo") in any and all its publications, including web-based publications, without payment or other consideration.

I understand and agree that all photos will become the property of NAHRO and will not be returned.

I hereby irrevocably authorize NAHRO to edit, alter, copy, exhibit, publish, or distribute these photos for any lawful purpose. In addition, I waive any right to inspect or approve the finished product wherein my likeness appears. Additionally, I waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising or related to the use of the photo.

I hereby hold harmless, release, and forever discharge NAHRO from all claims, demands, and causes of action which I, my heirs, representatives, executors, administrators, or any other persons acting on my behalf or on behalf of my estate have or may have by reason of this authorization.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE PHOTO RELEASE. I AFFIRM THAT I AM AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE, OR IF I AM UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE, I HAVE OBTAINED THE REQUIRED CONSENT OF MY PARENT/GUARDIAN AS EVIDENCED BY THEIR SIGNATURES BELOW. I ACCEPT:

Print Name

Signature

Date

If under 18, PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST SIGN

Parent/Legal Guardian

Date