

Monthly Newsletter

February 2023

MLK DAY EVENT RECAP!



THANK YOU TO ALL WHO CAME TO THE MLK DAY EVENT TO CELEBRATE AND REMEMBER THE LEGACY AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

COMMUNITY EVENTS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

After School Tutoring

- Hamilton Crossing: Monday - Wednesday, 4 pm - 5 pm
- New Parkridge: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Free GED Preparation Classes

- New Parkridge Community Room: Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 4 pm - 6 pm

Bingo

- Hamilton Crossing: Every Monday, 2 pm - 3 pm

Food Pantry

- Towner:
February 1st, 1:30 pm
February 15th, 10:30 am
- Hollow Creek:
February 7th, 1:30 pm
- Sauk Trail:
February 13th, 11:30 am
February 27th, 11:30 am

Black History Month Events in Ypsilanti

Check out the attached article, which lists various Black History Month events and celebrations happening in Ypsilanti. The article "Upcoming Ypsilanti events to celebrate Black History Month" was published by

Breanna Harris at the Eastern Echo.

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:

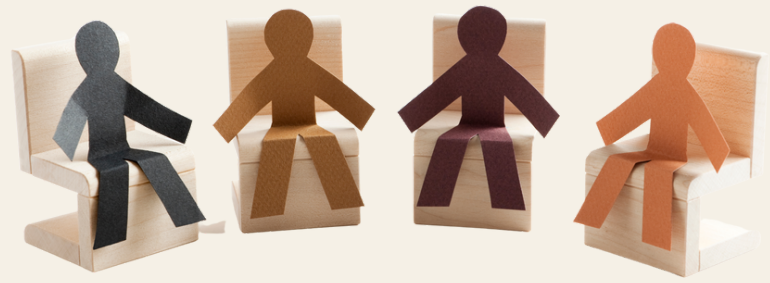
- Sergio Hernandez, Senior Resident Cares Coordinator, (734) 757 -5962

Additional Questions ?

If you have additional questions or you are unsure if FEP can assist you, please contact:

- Mark Hammond, FEP Director, (734) 787-0290

What's Next For Resident Council ??



RESIDENT COUNCIL BOARD MEMBER ELECTION TIME LINE

1

Election Workers: We are looking for volunteers to oversee the Resident Council Election Process. Election Workers are not allowed to run for a seat on the Resident Council Board. If you wish to volunteer, please reach out to Christa Hughbanks.

2

Nominations: Beginning (Date TBD), we will start accepting nominations for the Resident Council Board Elections. Anyone can submit nominations. Submitting a nomination means that you believe or have someone in mind who would be a great candidate to serve on the Resident Council Board. The last day nominations will be accepted (Date TBD)

3

Nomination Acceptance: On (Date TBD), Nominations will be posted, and everyone nominated to serve on the board will have a chance to accept their nominations.

4

Campaign: Beginning (Date TBD), everyone who has accepted their nomination will have a chance to campaign for 30 days. If any candidate needs assistance

5

Election: Starting (Date TBD), residents can vote on who they believe would be a great fit as a strong Future Resident Council Board Member. Ballots will be distributed to everyone's mailbox, and everyone will have two weeks to submit ballots to the Strong Future Ballot Drop Box.

6

Results: On (Date TBD), the Newly Elected Strong Future Resident Council will be announced, And the first official Resident Council Meeting will be set.

Resident Council Fact Sheet

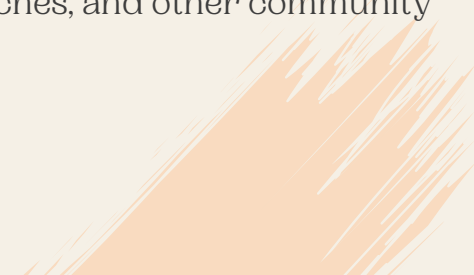
Resident Council Member:

Every resident who resides in the community over 18 and on a residential lease is automatically a part of the resident Council. There will be monthly resident council meetings, where residents can come together and discuss various ways to improve their communities. All residents who qualify are encouraged to partake in the resident council meeting as this is a way to be a leader, advocate for resources for your community, and help your family and neighbors enjoy a higher quality of life.

Resident Council Board:

To serve as a resident council Board Member, residents must be elected by fellow resident council members. The Role of a Resident Council Board is to act officially as a liaison between the YHC and Resident Council. The Board will be Responsible for Holding resident Council Meetings, Setting Agendas, Voting on Matters, and Communicating the resident Council needs and concerns to Property Management and the YHC.

Benefits of Resident Council to Residents

- Makes a stronger and safer Community to live in.
 - Makes decisions that affect you.
 - Serves as a Voice for the residents.
 - Represents the interest of all residents.
 - Can link the resident to other resources around the community.
 - Provides a means in which tenants' concerns can be prioritized and addressed.
 - Can address concerns for residents with the YHC staff.
 - Helps to educate and inform residents of grievances and other issues or projects on the property to keep residents up to date on that process.
 - Provides a place where issues can be discussed and information distributed.
 - Provides a way to organize projects and programs.
 - Serves as a communication link to advocate the issues and concerns of residents.
 - Support and promote programs and services, including applying for and receiving grants.
 - Help builds a positive relationship with the YHC, businesses, churches, and other community organizations.
- 

CONTACT Us

Family Empowerment Program (FEP) Services:

Please call a FEP staff member if you need assistance.

Director: Mark Hammond (734) 787-0290

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

Resident Cares Coordinator (55+): Sergio Hernandez (734) 757-5962

Mental Health Resident Services Coordinator: Christa Hughbanks (734) 787-2412

Permanent Supportive Housing Coordinator: Melinda Miller (734) 787-0239

For property management questions or concerns, please
contact:

Hamilton Crossing : (734) 484-1706

New Parkridge : (734) 961-7453

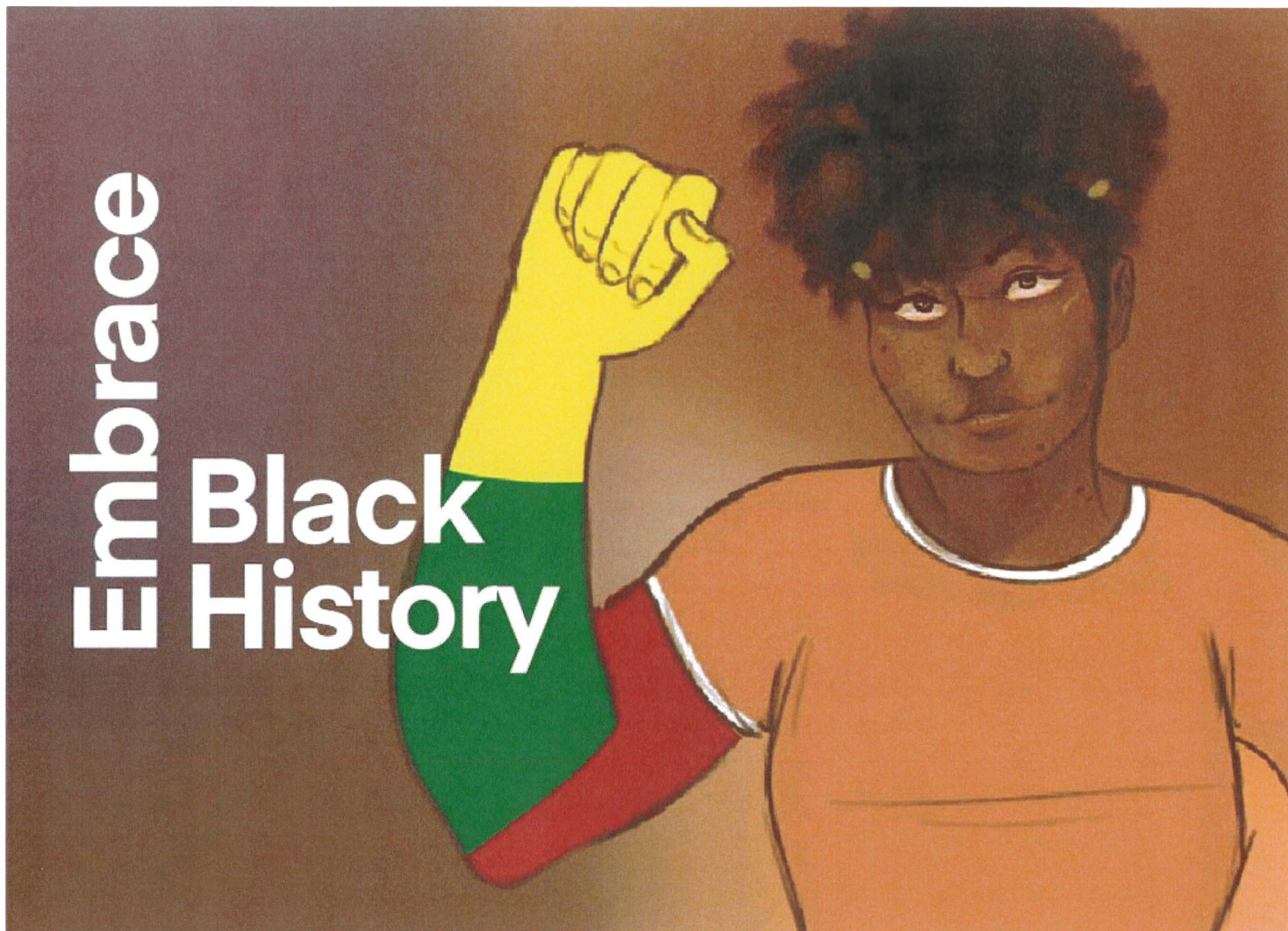
Deborah Strong Housing (including Sauk Trail Pointe, Hollow Creek, &
Towner Apartments): (734) 547-5117

Ypsilanti Housing Commission

601 Armstrong Dr.

(734) 482-4300

Questions about this newsletter? Please email
Deandre Webster, YHC Executive & Communications
Assistant at dwebster@ypsilantihc.org



AMBERLY GASCON

Embrace the past with Black History Month!

Looking for a way to celebrate Black History Month in Ypsilanti this February? Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti Community Schools and other organizations are hosting community events to honor Black artists, entrepreneurs, and more.

"Just a Kid from Ypsi"

On Feb. 9, there will be a Black History Month event presented by Ypsilanti Community Schools (YCS) titled "Just a Kid from Ypsi" with a series of speakers who grew up in the area discussing where they are at now. The program is a free virtual event from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information on how to attend, visit the YCS Facebook event page.

"Black Excellence: Black Student Entrepreneurship Talk"

On Feb. 10, The Center of Race and Ethnicity, Vision, and Campus Life presents "Black Excellence: Black Student Entrepreneurship Talk." Talia Edgar, an EMU alumna and entrepreneur, will host a discussion on the importance of entrepreneurship in the Black community. The event will take place virtually from 7 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.

"Beau Monde: An Anthology of Black Movement in America"

On Feb. 11 and Feb. 12, the Riverside Arts Center is presenting "Beau Monde: An Anthology of Black Movement in America". This year's Beau's Monde focuses on the movement of a woman and her body and will show us how the Black movement infuses itself in today's culture and society. Showings will be held Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are being sold for \$10-\$15. For more general information and to purchase tickets, visit the Eventbrite page.

"Art Walk at the Library"

On Feb. 19, the Ypsilanti District Library's Whittaker branch will present "Art Walk at the Library." Visitors will be able to take a walk around the first floor and discover the works of different African American artists. It will be held for free at the library from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. For location and general information, visit ypsilibrary.org.

"It All Seemed so Far Away Then, or The Future is Black Women"

On Saturday, Feb. 19, YpsiWrites and Office of Campus and Community Writing presents "It All Seemed so Far Away Then, or The Future is Black Women." The event will be a writing and discussion session led by Dr. Toni Pressley-Sanon. The meeting will be held virtually from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and attendees must register beforehand. For more information, visit ypsilibrary.org.

Remembering feminist and author Bell Hooks

On Feb. 22, The Department of Women's and Gender Studies will hold a discussion to remember feminist and author Bell Hooks. This will take place from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. via Zoom. For more information, contact Beth Currans at ecurrans@emich.edu.

Keynote Speaker Dr. Frank Leon Reynolds

On Feb. 24, the Center of Race and Ethnicity, Vision, and Campus Life presents "Keynote speaker Dr. Frank Leon Reynolds," NYU professor of the nation's first #BlackLivesMatter course and social activist. He will lead an interactive discussion with viewers from 6 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. via Zoom and Facebook live stream.

Black History Month Celebration with the city of Ypsilanti

On Feb. 25, Mayor Richardson of Ypsilanti and the city council plan to have a Black History Month Celebration focusing on African American first responders from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. over Zoom. More details can be found on cityofypsilanti.com.

Ypsilanti District Library exhibits

Any day of the week, celebrate Black History Month at the Ypsilanti District Library. They have a diverse list of books written by and featuring African Americans from all walks of life. They also have virtual exhibits that have auditory and visual effects as the museum itself, focusing on America's fight for racial equality from the 1940s to the 1970s. For more information, visit ypsilibrary.org.

A discussion about African American genealogy with Jean Winborn

On March 2, join Washtenaw Community College instructor, Jean Winborn, a renowned researcher in African-American genealogy, in a discussion about ancestry and learning about methods and different resources to help with the journey. This will take place from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. via Zoom.

Black History Month is a time to honor African Americans and raise awareness of Black history. While this is something that should happen year round, February gives us the opportunity to emphasize the importance of Black excellence in our community. With so many special events happening at EMU and around Ypsilanti, there are a variety of awesome activities that you can take part in.

SHARE

