

# Ypsilanti Housing Commission

## MAY 2023 NEWSLETTER

### Strong Future Resident Council - Nomination Period Extended

We are extending the deadline for people to submit a nomination for themselves or someone they believe would be a good fit for the Strong Future Resident Council Board.

Thank you to everyone who has expressed their interest so far. We currently have four candidates running for the Strong Future Resident Council Board and we are one person shy of obtaining the minimum number of candidates.

This is an opportunity to take on a leadership role in your community and advocate for your neighbors. If you want to submit a nomination, please follow the instructions on page 6 of this newsletter.

The last day to submit a nomination is May 12th. If there are any questions pertaining to the resident council please contact: Christa Hughbanks.

"The role of a resident council is to improve the quality of life and resident satisfaction and participate in self-help initiatives to enable residents to create a positive living environment for families living in public housing."

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

MARGARET MEAD

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### Our Mission

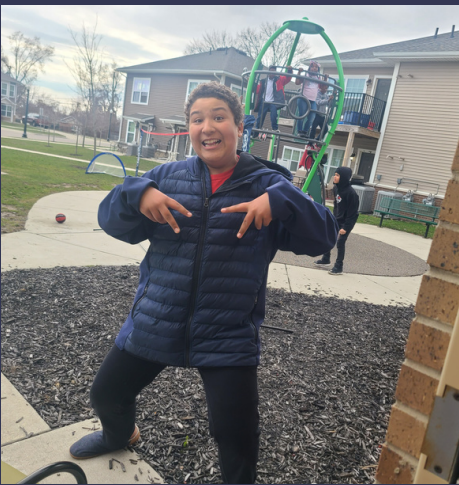
**"The YHC is committed to providing affordable, safe, and high-quality housing opportunities where residents have access to services and resources that allow them to reach their full potential."**

# Easter Celebration at Hamilton Crossing



Residents from across the communities came together to celebrate Easter with a range of fun activities, including egg painting, games, and other exciting events.

## Y ON THE FLY



Young people from YHC communities participated in outdoor activities through the Y On The Fly program.

# Upcoming Events

## Y on the FLY

Y on the Fly is back at New Parkridge and is being held every Monday from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm. We ask that all participants meet in front of the leasing office at 831 Hilyard Robinson Way. Kids can look for the Y on the Fly van to join outdoor activities for free. There is also a chance to win tickets to local college sporting events!

## Afterschool Tutoring at New Parkridge

New Parkridge Tutoring is held every Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm. We are asking parents to please ensure children are in attendance before 4:15 pm, which is the last time children will be allowed to join. Also, snacks will be provided between 3:30 pm to 4 pm. There will be permission slips for parents to sign. These must be completed before children can participate.

## Free GED Preparation Classes

Free GED Preparation classes will be held at the New Parkridge Office, 831 Hilyard Robinson Way, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. The classes will be held in the Community Room on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

## Afterschool Tutoring at Hamilton Crossing

Tutoring is being held for children and teens of all ages every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 4 pm - 5 pm at Hamilton Crossing.

## Adult Bingo at New Parkridge

Adult Bingo at New Parkridge is every Thursday from 6PM to 7:30 PM. Light refreshments are provided, and prizes are available to be won.

## Youth Bingo at New Parkridge

Youth Bingo at New Parkridge is every Thursday from 6PM to 7:30 PM. Light refreshments are provided, and prizes are available to be won.

## Literacy class at Hamilton Crossing

Every Thursday from 5 pm - 6:30 pm, those 16 and up can receive assistance with reading, math, writing, computer skills, and GED preparation.

## Self Care & Mental Health presentations at Hamilton Crossing

Come out to Hamilton Crossing on May 9th from 6 pm - 7:30 pm to learn about mental health resources available to you & ways to prioritize self care and reduce stress.

# 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.**

# Food Pantry Calendar

## MAY 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	1	2 Hollow Creek Food Pantry 1:30 pm	3 Towner Food pantry 10:30 am	4	5	6
7	8 Sauk Trail Food Pantry 11:00 am	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Towner Food Pantry 1:30 pm	18	19	20
21	22 Sauk Trail Food Pantry 11:00 am	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

This is an equal opportunity pantry. All are welcome.

# Strong Future Resident Council Board of Directors Nomination Form

## What does it mean to nominate myself or someone else?

When you nominate someone or yourself, you are formally expressing interest in serving as a Resident Council Board Member. When someone is nominated to serve on the Resident Council Board, this does not automatically mean they are appointed to serve as a Resident Council Board Member. This position is elected, and five residents of Strong Future will be elected to serve as a Strong Future Resident Council Board Member.

## If you are interested in nominating yourself or another party to serve on the Strong Future Resident Council Board, please follow the instructions below.

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### Strong Future Resident Council 2023 Nomination Form

Please indicate your interest no later than May 12th, 2023, by submitting the nomination form to the Sauk Trail Office. The party nominated must be a resident of Strong Future (Sauk Trail, Hollow Creek, Towner, Scatter Sites), at least 18 years old, and on the lease.

I am interested in running for the Strong Future Resident Council Board of Directors.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to nominate the following person for the Strong Future Resident Council Board of Directors.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Questions?

Please contact Christa Hughbanks, Email: [Chughban@emich.edu](mailto:Chughban@emich.edu) or Call: 734-787-2412

OR

**Use the QR Code to submit a Nomination**



# Resident Council General Information

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## **Resident Council Board of Directors:**

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 resident needs and concerns to property management and the YHC.

## **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.

## **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.
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W A S H T E N A W  
**LITERACY**

# Join Us!

## FREE

## Tutoring

May 10-August 31 (no session July 5 and 6)

- 16 years and older
- Drop-in basis
- Help with: reading, writing, math, computers, GED, and more!
- Two locations:

**Wednesdays**

**4-5:30 pm**

**Ypsilanti Library  
Superior Branch**

**1900 Harris Rd.**

**Ypsilanti, MI 48198**

**Thursdays**

**4-5:30 pm**

**Hamilton Crossing  
Community Center**

**596 S. Hamilton St.**

**Ypsilanti, MI 48197**

**For information contact:**

[austin@washtenawliteracy.org](mailto:austin@washtenawliteracy.org) or  
[fritsch@washtenawliteracy.org](mailto:fritsch@washtenawliteracy.org)