



Spring Issue

HCHA Gazette

April, May, June 2021

Hall County Housing Authority

New Employee at HCHA



David joined Hall County Housing Authority (HCHA) on November 23, 2020 as a Maintenance Technician.

HCHA Closings:

- Friday, April 30, 2021
Arbor Day
- Monday, May 31, 2021
Memorial Day
- The office is closed on Fridays, available by appointment only.

In This Issue:

- New Employee
- Inspection/Pest Control Schedules
- New Executive Director
- Emergency Rental Assistance
- CNCAA Drug/Alcohol Classes
- YMCA Women's Empowerment Center
- Resources/Events
- Calendar/Holidays
- Puzzle/Recipe

Inspection & Pest Control Schedule

Inspection Schedule:

- 4/1/21 Centennial Towers 6-11
- 4/2/21 Centennial Towers 1-5, Broadwell Courts
- 5/6/21 Golden Towers
- 6/3/21 Pletcher Terrace, Rainbow Terrace
- 7/1/21 Centennial Towers 6-11
- 7/2/21 Centennial Towers 1-5, Broadwell Courts

Pest Control/Inspection Schedule: Family Units:

- 4/8/21 Western, Island Terrace Doniphan
- 5/13/21 Orleans, Shady Bend Apartments
- 5/20/21 Shady Bend Villas
- 6/10/21 Scattered Sites, Stolley Park
- 7/8/21 Western, Island Terrace, Doniphan

HCHA Gets a New Executive Director



Barry Hall is the new Executive Director of the Hall County Housing Authority (HCHA). He started the position on November 9, 2020.

He comes to Grand Island from Austin, Texas, with over 22 years of experience in the public housing industry, plus having worked almost every job in a public housing agency, he has a clear understanding of the public housing mission. “While working as an independent contractor for the Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA), it opened my eyes to the important work being done by public housing authorities. Prior to my contracting experience, my thoughts were public housing authorities only provided low-income housing.” Shortly after the completion of his contract, he joined HACA’s maintenance department in 2009. “Although the maintenance department was my entry into the public housing industry, I knew it wouldn’t be my last stop.”

While still employed with HACA, he advanced to the position of Maintenance Supervisor and was subsequently promoted to Inspection Coordinator. After 7 years at HACA, he left for the Housing Authority of Travis County (also located in Austin, TX.) to become its Assistant Director of Operations and eventually its Director of Affordable Housing Programs. “The more that I worked in the public housing industry, the clearer it became that policy drives programs and services. Furthermore, the position of executive director plays an important role in setting policy. I set a goal to become an executive director.”

In 2020, opportunity knocked by way of an executive recruiter. “I was offered the chance to interview for two open executive director’s positions, one in Glenwood, Colorado and here in Grand Island, Nebraska at the Hall County Housing Authority.” After visiting both agencies in October, he felt HCHA was the right agency to begin as an executive director. “The agency is financially sound, has a very good staff, and is headed in a positive direction. In my opinion, I felt the only thing missing was a renewed vision of what we could achieve in the community.”

Being an executive director isn’t without challenges, over the past year the coronavirus pandemic has highlighted the importance of housing and housing scarcity. In response to the growing pandemic the Center of Disease Control (CDC) in an effort to curb the pandemic viral effects issued a shelter-in-place order. The order asked American citizens to maintain social distance, reduce their interactions with individuals outside their inner circles, and to remain home as much as possible. For the homeless, the order became an impracticality and for the many others it exposed the fragility of housing in the nation. The pandemic and the ongoing housing crisis did shine a spotlight on the need for affordable housing in America.

“Affordable housing remains a challenge in our nation and public housing authorities have been on the forefront of addressing the issues. As the executive director of Hall County Housing Authority, I’m committed to our mission to provide affordable housing and supportive services to our clients and citizens of Grand Island.”





Emergency Rental Assistance

What is the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program?

The Emergency Rental Assistance program makes funds available to assist eligible renter households that are unable to pay past due and /or future rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic based on income qualifications.

What are the key program dates?

The program opened on February 22, 2021 and applications will be accepted through August 2021.

What resources are available to help me with the application process?

The following applicant resources are available to you on <https://coronavirus.nebraska.gov> under Emergency Rental Assistance:

- An Application User Guide provides instructions for navigating the online application portal, lists the questions to be found on the online application form and outlines the documents and information you need to complete the application process.
- A toll-free contact center at **1(833) 500-8810** for you to call with questions. Contact Center agents will be available between 8:00 am and 7:00 pm Monday through Friday.
- Another resource that is available to you is Tina, Resident Services Coordinator. She can be reached at HCHA at (308) 385-5530.

How can I complete the application form?

Applicants may complete the application by visiting: <https://coronavirus.nebraska.gov> and selecting the webpage for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program. (PLEASE NOTE THAT PAPER BASED APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED).

When will the application window open and what is the deadline for applying?

The application process opened on February 22, 2021. Under this program, eligible households can obtain assistance for rent due from April 1, 2020 through November 30, 2021.

What supportive documentation will I need to complete the application process?

Documents will need to be uploaded as part of the application process.

The following will need to be provided:

- Proof of being financially impacted by COVID-19 (e.g. Employment verification of loss of employment, unemployment, layoff letter, etc.)
- Current driver's license or photo ID
- Proof of current income of all household members who file income taxes (e.g. IRS Form 1040 for the year 2020, recent pay stubs, unemployment claim, contribution statement, etc.)
- If applicable, supporting information for additional months of assistance (e.g. rent statement, rent notices showing balance of rent owed, etc.)

How will I know my application has been received and can I check the status?

You will receive an email notifications at various states.

Central Nebraska Council on Alcoholism and Addictions Alcohol/Drug Ed Classes
219 W. 2nd Street, Grand Island, NE 68801
Telephone: 308-385-5520 Email: naomi@cncaa.info
Please pre-register for classes as they sometimes fill up quickly.

Adult Alcohol Education

Saturday, April 24, 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Saturday, June 5, 8:30 am-5:30 pm

Youth Alcohol Education

Saturday, April 10, 8:30 am-5:30 pm; Thursday, June 3, 8:30 am-5:30 pm

Youth Marijuana Education

Friday, April 23, 1:00 pm-5:00 pm

Adult Marijuana Education

Thursday, May 20, 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Youth Tobacco Education

Friday, April 23, 8:30 am-12:30 pm; Friday, June 4, 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Spanish Alcohol Education

Friday, May 28, 8:30 am-5:30 pm



Women's Empowerment Center:

A training program to empower women through employment and educational attainment.

Staff at the YWCA Women's Empowerment Center can help you with:

- Finding a job
- Applying for jobs
- Resumes
- Cover letters
- Interview Skills
- Navigating insurance
- Connecting to resources
- Stress management
- Going back to school
- Budgeting

Free childcare available while women meet with staff. Call 308-384-9922 for more information.



RESOURCES:

- **Nebraska Childcare Referral Network**-Enables families to locate licensed child care providers that are family care and center-based care, www.nechildcarereferral.org
- **Independence Rising**-Serves persons with disabilities across the age span with any type of disabling condition, 312 N. Elm St., Grand Island, 308-382-9255.
- **Lifeline**-A program that assists qualifying income-eligible consumers with a discount on phone service, www.lifelinesupport.org.
- **Grand Generation Center**-Provides a nutritious meal at noon and social activities for seniors, 304 E. 3rd Street, Grand Island, 308-385-5308.

EVENTS:

- **Harassment & Sexual Harassment Presentation**-Wednesday, April 14, 2021, 1:30 pm in the Community Room at Centennial Towers.
- **Blood Drive**-Friday, April 16, 2021, 10:00 am-4:00 pm, Community Room at Golden Towers, Hall County Housing Authority, 804 N. Boggs Ave.
- **Public Hearing**-Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 12:00 pm, Centennial Towers Community Room, 910 N. Boggs Avenue, Grand Island.

A Public Hearing is a formal proceeding held in order to receive testimony from all interested parties including the general public on a proposed issue or action.



April 2021						
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May 2021						
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June 2021						
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Upcoming Holidays:

April 4 Easter
 April 30 Arbor Day

May 9 Mother’s Day
 May 30 Memorial Day

June 14 Flag Day
 June 20 Father’s Day



Hall County Housing Authority

1834 W. 7th Street
Grand Island, NE 68803

Phone: 308-385-5530
Fax: 308-385-5533
Email: hcha1@hcha.net



Tenant Name
Address
City, NE ZIP

“You can’t go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending.”
- C.S. Lewis

Visit our Website—www.hcha.net

Spring Word Scramble



1. onrtacai _____
2. fubtrytle _____
3. glbdyau _____
4. odruotos _____
5. rdzeliz _____
6. ndareg _____
7. ormdsethnurs _____
8. neusnsih _____
9. r1maelbu _____
10. reotdason _____
11. nwoarbi _____
12. sntglhui _____
13. sudlped _____
14. nspugrito _____
15. rsgsa _____
16. saneso _____

- | | | | |
|-------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 16. season | 15. grass | 14. sprouting | 13. puddles |
| 12. rainbaw | 11. rainbaw | 10. tornadoes | 9. umbrellla |
| 8. sunshine | 7. thunderstorms | 6. garden | 5. drizzle |
| 4. outdoors | 3. ladybug | 2. butterfly | 1. raincoat |

Strawberry Lemonade Cookies



Ingredients :

- 1 lemon cake mix
- 1 strawberry cake mix
- 4 eggs
- 2/3 cup vegetable oil
- 2 tsps. lemon extract

Icing: (optional)

- 1-2 cups powdered sugar
- 1-2 tbsps. Milk

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Place lemon cake mix into a large bowl and the strawberry cake mix into another large bowl. Mix 2 eggs, 1/3 cup vegetable oil and 1 tsp lemon extract into each flavored cake mix. Place dough into fridge for 20 minutes. Take 1 rounded tsp of lemon dough and roll into a ball. Do the same with the strawberry dough. Combine the lemon and strawberry dough to make one large ball. Place the dough ball in a bowl with cup powdered sugar and roll to coat in sugar. Repeat with remaining dough. Bake for 10 minutes. To make the icing, whisk together remaining cup powdered sugar with 1-2 tbsps. milk. When the cookies are cooled, drizzle icing on each cookie.