



NHA News

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Increased SNAP (Food Stamp) Allotments for All SNAP Recipients; Expanded Eligibility for Single People

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), increased SNAP (food stamp) allotments by 13.6%. Single people now qualify for SNAP without a time limit or work requirement. Those who were ineligible for food stamps because of the ABAWD rules should now reapply. "ABAWD rules" means Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents. These rules limited food stamp eligibility for single people to 3 months in each 36 months period. Only those who could not work, and those working or in a work program for a certain number of hours could qualify for longer periods. The rule did not apply in certain areas of the state with high rates of unemployment. The ARRA suspended these rules for a period of eighteen months.



Income Limits Raised For AmeriCares Free Clinics

AmeriCares Free Clinics provide quality medical care to the uninsured in Norwalk. Volunteer doctors and nurses provide primary and care for qualifying, low-income residents. The clinics treat adult patients through walk-in programs. Patients with chronic illnesses, such as diabetes and asthma, can be seen by appointment. The Norwalk clinic has a pediatric program. Children are examined on Wednesdays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Lab tests and diagnostic services are available to patients at no charge. To be eligible you must:

- Have no health insurance
- Meet income guidelines
- Be a resident of the area
- Provide photo identification
- Provide proof of income

For more information call 1-800-486-HELP.



Maintenance Laborer Fulltime

On-site work at housing developments. Salary: \$17.79 /hr. Some overtime req. Driver's license, high school diploma or equivalent. Send resume to Norwalk Housing Authority, 24 1/2 Monroe St., Norwalk, CT 06856-0508 or fax to 838-6535 by 5/15/08. Experience in electrician, carpentry and/or plumbing trades preferred. If you need help with your resume call Public Housing Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator Guillermo Bendana at 838-8471 Ext. 135. EOE.

FREE BOOKS AT NHA MAIN OFFICE

When visiting NHA's Main Office, remember to pick up free children and adult books for your children and yourself. They are located in the lobby by the reception desk. New books for children to explore with parents or, when older, on their own, are very important for children. Keeping a home library for your child may be critical to your child's success in school.

NHA Seniors!

Come out for a day of fun at the Mohegan Sun Casino on Tuesday May 5, 2009. Call Emily for reservations 838-8471 ext 180. Free transportation provided.



Early Childhood Parents Family Night Out with FREE Family Dinner!

What: High quality educational early childhood programs & exciting resourceful speakers for you and your child.
When: May 14, 2009, 5:30-7:00 PM
Where: Leroy Downs Community Room
 26 Monroe St. (across from main office)



Please call Ann Prince, NHA Early Childhood Coordinator to register today: 838-8471 ext. 187. Parents participating in programs please make every effort to attend. Free transportation.



COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP NEWS!

Great Tuition-Free College Programs for students whose family income is under \$50,000 are now available for high school seniors who will be college Freshmen at Sacred Heart U., Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Penn and many more colleges. Fairfield University does not have full free tuition but offers "significant assistance". Fairfield U. primarily accepts students with a 3.5 GPA or better. Applications for mid-year entry for Fairfield U. are due May 1, 2009. If you are interested in any of the above, contact Carla Conway at NHA at 838-8471, ext. 176.

NHA Scholarship Program Receives Over 40 Requests for the 2009 Norwalk Housing Foundation College Scholarship Application. (Deadline: April 24). If you submitted by mail or have recommendation letters and grade transcripts coming, contact Carla Conway to check that material has been received. Last year \$105,100 was awarded to 32 students. College bound residents should contact Carla Conway about other scholarship packages. Please note all packages are for full-time students.

Applications available for \$2,500 Housing Authority Insurance Group Scholarships for NHA & Section 8 Residents at NHA's main office (lobby), 24½ Monroe Street (for NHA or Section-8 residents of all ages with GPA's of 2.5 and above). Deadline is April 30th. Required reference letter from NHA will be provided. Contact Carla Conway: 838-8471, ext. 176 with letter requests, etc. Applications are also online at Housing Authority Insurance Group website at www.housingcenter.com/RiskControl/Scholarship.asp

Elizabeth Raymond Ambler Trust Scholarships: Deadline is April 30th. Contact Carla Conway: 838-8471, ext. 176 or go online for applications and details at www.amblertrust.org/scholarship.html

Free SAT Prep Classes are offered at NHA's 20 West Avenue Learning Centers. Call Richard Nemchek between 9:00 AM & 2:00 PM at 203-322-8407 to register.

Literacy Corner



As every parent knows, children often beg to hear the same story over and over again. There's a lot for a child to take in, and kids need and want to go through a book more times that grown-ups can imagine. Children delight in knowing what happens next. Familiarity is very comforting to kids. Often children learn a favorite book so well that they can "read" it on their own, feeling very much like readers. What a great start in developing a lifelong love of books!

80 Fair Street Workforce Housing Program

Open enrollment period for the Workforce Housing Program at 80 Fair Street, Norwalk will take place from now until April 30, 2009. During this period TRIO Real Estate Services will accept applications. Application forms, are available by calling 846-8010.

LICENSED CHILDCARE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Want to learn more about how young children grow and develop? Interested in becoming a licensed family child care provider? If so attend a free information session on Wednesday, May 6, 2009 at Fox Run Family Resource Center, 228 Fillow St. (899-2326)

*FREE children's materials and home safety kit - \$100 value mailed to participants who do all of the following:

- ◆ Provide a photo ID with current address
 - ◆ Arrive promptly by 5:30 pm
 - ◆ Attend the full training, signing in & out
- ** No exceptions **

Registration by May 1st is required to attend the training. To register, contact 2-1-1 Child Care at 1-800-505-1000.

6 Weeks of Fun for Parents & Pre-k to Kindergarten

Literacy with parents as Teachers Playgroup Program will be held at Fox Run School, 228 Fillow St., Norwalk, CT on Thursdays from 10:00am-11:45am beginning April 23- May 28, 2009. Enrollment is open. Call Ann Prince at 838-8471 ext. 183.



Firefighters Wanted!

Norwalk Fire Department is hiring and are seeking to hire minorities from Norwalk to fill these positions. For more information about the application process, visit the fire departments website at www.norwalkct.org/fire.



Coming Soon!

New Art Center!! Call Danielle Truini at 838-8471 ext. 184 for details.



"If it's drama that you sigh for, plant a garden and you'll get it. You will know the thrill of battle fighting foes that will beset it. If you long for entertainment and for pageantry most glowing, plant a garden and this summer spend your time with green things growing." - Edward Guest

