

## First-time Homebuyers Certification Program

NHA Federal Public Housing and Federal Section 8 residents may qualify for mortgage subsidies for up to 15 years!



Come to this FREE program presented by Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust, to learn what's involved in becoming a homeowner on **Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup>**, 9:00AM – 5:00 PM. You'll be guided step by step through the process including reviewing your finances, determining how much you

can afford, reviewing your credit, shopping for a home, obtaining a mortgage, preparing for the closing, and more. ***This popular class fills up quickly! Pre-registration is required, space is limited.*** This program will be held at the **NHA/CNI Field Office, 149 Water Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Norwalk**. Contact 203-838-8471 Jamie (x180) or Nadine(x681) and to learn the steps you can take **TODAY** to become a homeowner! Transportation available to NHA residents only with at least one week advanced notice.

## Change in Office Hours

In an effort to better serve residents, NHA will be changing its hours of operation effective March 1, 2019. Every Tuesday, NHA will be open from 11am to 7pm.

## The NHF 2019-2020 Scholarship Application is Available Until April 5th

### STEPS TO APPLY

• GO TO NHF Website:

[www.norwalkhousingfoundation.org](http://www.norwalkhousingfoundation.org)

• GO TO Apply for Scholarship Section at the bottom of the page and click on Apply

All NHA residents residing in public housing are eligible to apply.

Questions, contact Scholarship Coordinator, Alfy Roby at [aroby@norwalkha.org](mailto:aroby@norwalkha.org), | 203-838-8471 ext. 190



## Your Guide to Avoiding Winter Illnesses

Over the course of one year, 1 billion Americans will suffer from the common cold, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The CDC also reports that winter is peak cold season. This should come as no surprise when you think about how many people you see sneezing and coughing during the colder months. Fortunately, you can keep these illnesses at bay and stay healthy with a little effort. Here's how:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick and stay away from others when you feel under the weather.
- Wash your hands often using soap and warm water to protect against germs.
- Get plenty of sleep, stay physically active and drink plenty of water to keep your immune system strong.
- Manage your stress and eat a nutritious diet rich in healthy grains, fruits, vegetables and fiber.
- Don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands aren't clean.

**STAY WELL  
THIS WINTER**

## Are you interested in a career in the growing health care field?

Learn about FREE training at Southwestern CT Health Career<sub>x</sub> Academy. Offered through the WorkPlace. Training opportunities include: C.N.A., Pharmacy Tech, Patient Care Tech, Medical Billing and Coding and more. Eligibility requirements are based on family income or those that have been unemployed (27 weeks or longer). **Pre-registration is required.**

Dates/Times: March 11<sup>th</sup>, 10AM OR 2PM

OR

March 18<sup>th</sup>, 10AM

Place: NHA CNI Field Office, 149 Water St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Norwalk

Call 203-838-8471 x681 (Nadine) or x180 (Jamie) to register for the information session.

## FREE Tax Preparation!

Did you know that many families are eligible for valuable tax credits every year? To get these credits, you MUST file a tax return. Individuals taking advantage of the e-file program will receive their refunds in half the time compared to returns filed on paper and even faster when tax refunds are deposited directly into the bank accounts. IRS-certified trained volunteers at Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites offer FREE Tax preparation and e-filing services for low-to-moderate-income from mid-January through mid-April. VITA site Norwalk locations begin January 31, 2019 through April 13, 2019:

### Walk-in sites:

South Norwalk Library, 100 Washington St., Saturdays, 9AM – 2PM

Norwalk Main Library, 1 Belden Ave., Thursdays, 2:30PM – 8PM

Norwalk City Hall, 125 East Ave., Tuesdays 1:30PM – 8PM

Norwalk Community College, 188 Richards Ave. Rm. W138 and Rm. W140, 203-857-7358,

Tuesdays & Thursdays 7PM – 9:30PM; Saturdays 10AM – 3:30PM

### By appointment only sites:

Family & Children's Agency, 140 Water St., Call for appointment 203-523-5336, Tuesdays 5:30PM – 9PM

Norwalk Senior Center, 11 Allen Rd, Call for appointment 203-847-3115, Fridays 9am-4pm

### **You will need to bring these documents:**

- Valid photo ID
- Copy of last year's Federal & State returns
- Social Security numbers or ITIN (Individual Taxpayer identification) numbers for you and anyone else on our tax return
- Documentation for ALL income, Social Security or pensions, including forms W-2, 1099-R
- Education Expenses and student loan payments, 1098T
- Payments for child care. Bring day care provider's address and tax ID number
- Bank routing and accounting numbers to direct deposit your refund
- Mortgage 1098 form and receipts of property and car taxes paid, mortgage expenses and/or interest paid
- Access Health CT forms, 1095A, copy of health insurance form 1095 B or C
- Identity theft PIN # if applicable

For more information including additional free tax prep site locations and schedules throughout Connecticut, visit [cash.org/FREETAXPREP](http://cash.org/FREETAXPREP), [211ct.org](http://211ct.org) or call 211.

## Career Resources Bus on Site at NHA CNI Field Office

The Career Resources Career Coach Bus will be on site in the parking lot of 149 Water Street (CNI-HOU office location) on February 28th from 1:00-3:00. The topic will be Job Search Assistance. If you are looking for ways to start your search for a new job, then you won't want to miss this. The Career Resources representative will share the best job board sites and ways to navigate the search process. Save time and effort and avoid frustration while learning from an expert.

## Help Build Your Emergency Savings Account

Join the Connecticut United Way to help working families increase their economic security by building a life-long habit of savings. [SaverLife Connecticut](#) combines an online goal-based savings program with 24 weeks of motivational digital financial coaching and a community of online resources. Aimed at low- to moderate-income working families, SaverLife is open to anyone aged 18 or older with a valid email address and savings account with online access. The 6-month program provides a \$10 reward for every month that participants save at least \$20.

## SCORE Entrepreneurship – IN SPANISH!

Are you interested in starting your own business? Be your own boss? You won't want to miss these two free presentations *for Spanish speakers*, presented by SCORE, the nation's largest network of expert business mentors and volunteers. Come to our FREE Workshop presented by SCORE, the nation's largest network of expert business mentors and volunteers, to learn more.

*These sessions will be conducted IN SPANISH only.*

Date/Time: March 7<sup>th</sup>, 5:30PM

Topic: Credit and Financing Issues for new businesses

*and*

Date/Time: March 21<sup>st</sup>, 5:30PM

Topic: Entrepreneurship for new businesses

Place: NHA/CNI Field Office, 149 Water St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Norwalk

Call Lisa T. at 203-952-8308 *or* Nadine 203-838-8471 X681 to register or for more information.

## Bridge To College & Career

The next session of Bridge To College & Career will be February 6<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm-8pm at 20 West Ave. Students will choose courses to meet admissions requirement for highly competitive colleges. This program is open to all NHA residents in high school. Call 203.852.1144 for more information and to request transportation to and from the program.

## Students study Jacob Lawrence for Black History Month!



In February, students will learn about the life and art of Jacob Lawrence. He was known for his series of 61 paintings on the subject of migration, so this will be a collaborative project. Each center will

be working on a different assigned topic, such as Transportation and Builders, with each student illustrating a different aspect of their theme.

## Reading Time! Great Way to Read with Your Child

Studies have shown Reading aloud to children has been shown to improve reading, writing and communication skills, concentration, and general academic aptitude, as well as inspire a lifelong love of reading. Reading aloud is one of the most important things parents can do with their children. Reading aloud will foster many essential skills. Reading books aloud to children helps to build your child's imagination and increases their understanding of the world around them. Even after children learn to read by themselves, it's still important for you to read aloud together.

## Crazy 8s Is Not Just a Card Game!

Crazy 8s is new initiative at NHA under the direction of STEM Coordinator Sheiree Powell. This recreational after-school math club helps kids enjoy the math behind their favorite activities!

We're nothing like your usual math club. With Crazy 8s kids will build glow-in-the-dark structures, crack secret spy codes and play games like Toilet Paper Olympics. Look out for weekly parent brochures and postcards! Download the Free Bedtime Math App! Math will never be the same. For more info check out <https://crazy8s.bedtimemath.org>



Glow in the Dark Geometry



For FALL 2019

**NHA is here to help with...**



# KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

**Helping to enroll NOW!**

**KING KENNEDY LEARNING CENTER**

Mon, March 19th  
12pm-2pm

**MEADOW GARDENS LERARNING CENTER**

Tues, March 20th  
7pm-9pm

**ROODNER COURT LEARNING CENTER**

Wed, March 21st  
10am-12pm

**COLONIAL VILLAGE LEARNING CENTER**

Thurs, March 21st  
7pm-9pm

**Questions? Call Mrs. Josie @ 203.644.4720**





## Norwalk Guide to Single-Stream Recycling

Norwalk has updated the list of what belongs in your recycling bin and what doesn't. All items should be empty, rinsed, and clean. Do not box, bag or bundle items.

	<b>What's IN?</b>	<b>What's OUT?</b>
<b>Paper</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cardboard &amp; boxboard</li> <li>Food &amp; beverage cartons</li> <li>Paperboard-cereal boxes, tissue boxes</li> <li>Paper rolls, etc.</li> <li>Junk mail &amp; phone books</li> <li>Magazines &amp; newspaper inserts</li> <li>Newspaper &amp; newsprint</li> <li>Office paper-white or colored</li> <li>Pizza boxes- no pizza</li> <li>Tissue paper</li> <li>Wrapping paper and gift bags</li> <li>Shredded paper</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paper cups- hot or cold</li> <li>Tissues</li> <li>Cardboard takeout food containers</li> <li>Paper plates and napkins</li> <li>Wet or soiled paper</li> </ul>
<b>Plastic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plastic bottles- with or without caps</li> <li>Plastic containers, tubs and lids</li> <li>Plastic one-use cups &amp; tops- no straws</li> <li>Loose bottle caps</li> <li>Plastic plates, bowls &amp; utensils-must be clean</li> <li>Prescription bottles- no labels</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plastic bags</li> <li>Plastic wrap or film or bubble wrap</li> <li>Single use coffee containers/pods</li> <li>Plastic straws</li> <li>Styrofoam cups, containers, &amp; trays</li> <li>Packing peanuts</li> <li>Compostable plates, containers, bags or utensils</li> <li>Hard plastic</li> <li>Water filters</li> <li>Motor oil or pesticide bottles</li> </ul>
<b>Glass</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beverage bottles &amp; jars- clear or colored</li> <li>Food bottles &amp; jars</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ceramic mugs, plates</li> <li>Pyrex containers</li> <li>Drinking glasses</li> <li>Windows</li> <li>Lightbulbs</li> <li>Broken glass</li> </ul>
<b>Metal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cans and bottles</li> <li>Aerosol containers- must be empty</li> <li>Aluminum foil</li> <li>Foil take-out food containers</li> <li>Metal lids from cans and bottles</li> <li>Spiral notebooks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foil tops from yogurt containers</li> <li>Paint cans</li> <li>Pots and pans</li> <li>Small pieces of scrap metal</li> <li>Spiral bound binders or containers</li> </ul>

