



LMHA Special Programs, March 2024 1st QTR 2024

Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) provides intensive case management services to assist residents in obtaining and maintaining full-time employment, better their financial skills and build an asset within an escrow savings account. In the last five years, 184 LMHA participants have graduated FSS and received over \$1.6 million in escrow. (Reported by calendar year.)

- New enrollments: PH – 3, HCV – 12 (QTR1: PH – 4, HCV – 32)
- Graduations: 1 receiving \$11,773.91 in escrow (QTR1: 5 receiving \$26,195.32 in escrow.)
- Terminations: 5 (YTD: 8)
- Currently Enrolled: PH – 34, HCV – 227, Total of 261
- Total FSS served YTD: 276 (Goal of 325)
- PH escrow accounts: 28 (82%), total \$118,104.02
- HCV escrow accounts: 158 (70%), total \$322,502.27
- FSS participant employment: PH – 64%, HCV – 58%
- Enrolled in school: 27

Individual Development Account (IDA) provides FSS participants who have little or no escrow potential to save money on their own in an IDA account and have it matched 2 to 1 by LMHA. Participants must save a minimum of \$25 per month and have up to three (3) years to complete saving and up to \$2,000 of participant savings will be matched. (Reported by calendar year.)

- New Enrolments: 0 (QTR1: 0)
- Total Participants: 13
- Pending Referrals: 2
- Total Saved: \$14,270
- Total Match: \$22,408
- Program Completions: 0 (QTR1: 0)

THRIVE, funded by a Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency Service Coordinator grant (ROSS-SC) serves only public housing families. Based on a survey answered by over 670 heads of household, LMHA's Thrive program connects LMHA residents with services to keep elderly/disabled residents in their homes, assist adults and youth in finding employment and connect residents with financial empowerment services. HUD requires that LMHA serve at least 150 residents a year. For the last annual report LMHA served 256 residents. **The Core Center** is located at Dosker Manor and is part of LMHA's Thrive efforts. The Center provides general case management and supportive services to our elderly/disabled residents. The Senior Social Worker on site

connects residents to local supportive and community services to ensure residents remain in place, independently. Roughly, 140 residents were served in the last report year. (HUD tracks THRIVE following the federal fiscal year, October through September.)

- Number seen: 45 (QTR1: 124)
- Referrals: 40 (QTR1: 70)
- Services provided: 39 (QTR1: 55)
- Employed: Will be adding this in the near future (completed training to track employment)
- Enrolled in school: Will be adding this in the near future (completed training to track employment)
- Collaborations: 1) Coordinated with ElderServe to offer community services for 60+ residents (offer free transportation); 2) Coordinated with CenterWell to host preventative care/wellness events at elderly/disabled sites
Events: QTR1, 4 (3- Affordable Connectivity Plan (Lourdes Hall, Avenue Plaza, Will Seay Plaza; 1- ElderServe (Park DuValle Senior Building)

Assisting Emergency Housing Referrals to Successfully Maintain Assisted Housing. LMHA employees two social work professionals who follow up with residents placed in both public housing and with Housing Choice Vouchers through emergency housing referrals to help those families be more successful in living independently. (Reported by calendar year)

- Number seen: 13 (QTR1: 38)
- Referrals: 2 (QTR1: 8)
- Services provided: 10 (QTR1: 32)
- Security deposits paid: 0 (QTR1: 0)
- Utility bills cleared: 0 (QTR1: 0)
- Household items purchased: 2 (QTR1: 2)

LMHA's **Digital Inclusion** efforts provide residents with refurbished computers, connect them with free or low-cost Internet options and provide digital skills training. Since 2018, LMHA distributed over 900 desktop and laptop computers, offered no-cost Broadband to all Parkway Place residents for two years, while referring other residents to new low and no-cost Internet options. Providing digital skills training restarted (post-pandemic) in 2023. (Reported by calendar year)

- Digital skills trainings (people): 11 (QTR1: 14)
- Computers distributed: 10 (QTR1: 12)
- Computers in stock: 240 (27 Re-imaged)

Housing Choice Voucher Homeownership continues to make the dream of owning a home a reality for both public housing and voucher households. Even in the tough housing market of 2023, we had fifty (50) families purchase homes with the assistance of this program. (Reported by calendar year)

- Closings: 5 (QTR1: 16)
- FSS Participant Closings: 1 (QTR1: 1)
- Program total: 481
- Pipeline: 78 including 13 sales contracts

The Home Preservation Program provides the same assistance as the above HCV Homeownership Program to qualifying families in neighborhoods impacted by HOPE VI and CHOICE Neighborhoods investment. A forgivable loan program helps families needing repairs to pass Housing Quality Standards inspections. The first program of its kind in the country has taken some time to build and adapt to the needs of the community. (Reported by calendar year)

- Enrollments: 0 (QTR1: 0)
- Total Enrolled: 19
- Home Repairs Completed: 0 (QTR1: 0)
- Total Homes Repaired: 11
- Homes awaiting repairs: 1

LMHA Scholarship Program, since 1987, has awarded nearly 550 college scholarships totaling approximately \$1.4 million. Currently, scholarships are one-time awards of up to \$1,500. In 2023, LMHA awarded five scholarships.

- 2024 Scholarship applications are now available
- First completed application have been received
- Applications are due April 15, 2024

Resident Legal Services are provided under a contract with the Legal Aid Society. Pre-pandemic the way most residents utilized the services was through attending workshops (tenant rights and responsibilities, life planning and expungement) conducted by Legal Aid. Following those workshops, residents would then request individual services. Utilization of these services could greatly improve.

- Referred: 3 (QTR1: 7)
- Workshops: 3 (QTR1: 3)

Ten (10) **Resident Councils** are currently established at Parkway Place, Avenue Plaza, Dosker Manor, St. Catherine Court, Will E. Seay Plaza, Lourdes Hall, Noltemeyer Wynde, Liberty Green, Sheppard Square and Beecher Terrace.

- Hired the new Resident Relations Coordinator. Markham French will start the position on Monday, April 8th.

Book Rich Environments (BRE) is a partnership of housing authorities, the National Book Foundation, HUD, the US Department of Education, and other non-profits to distribute books to children living in public housing. LMHA distributes over 10,000 each year. Books are placed in the Section 8 waiting room for families. (Reported on calendar year.)

- 2024 is a Planning Year for BRE and LMHA will not receive any additional books.
- Remaining books from 2023: 3,345
- Distribution events: 2 (QTR1: 2)
- Books distributed: 175 (QTR1: 175)