**JUNE, 2025** 

# CMHAMONTHLY

## NEWS

## LOGAN COMMONS HOSTS GRAND OPENING EVENT!



Ribbon cutting for the Grand Opening of Logan Commons

It was a Grand Opening to remember! On Friday, June 6, 2025, the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority held the Grand Opening of Logan Commons in the Findlay Market district of Over-The-Rhine. This newly constructed building for seniors represents CMHA's continued investment of more than \$264 million in Hamilton County. CMHA promotes our mission by continuing to provide quality, affordable housing for families throughout Hamilton County through this newly constructed building for seniors! Less than 10 minutes from Downtown Cincinnati, it's in close proximity to public transportation, entertainment, restaurants, and grocery stores. Logan Commons is more than just a home; it's a community for our seniors.



The Grand Opening was standing room only as partners, stakeholders, residents, and CMHA staff cut the ribbon and celebrated this momentous occasion. CMHA CEO Gregory Johnson commended staff who brought the construction of the new building to fruition and

thanked our partners for the assistance in funding and providing a location in Over-the-Rhine for the building.

CMHA Board member Lann Field, who lives in the neighborhood, said, "This is more than a grand opening, it's the beginning of a new chapter for our seniors. I have spent much of my professional career revitalizing neighborhoods like OTR and bringing projects like this to fruition, so I know the complexity and hard work it takes to make it all happen. It's truly a milestone to be celebrated." Ms. Fields continued to say that Logan Commons does more than just provide quality affordable housing for our residents; it's now a home for our seniors.







#### HAMILTON COUNTY AND CINCINNATI OFFICIALS SHOW UP TO WELCOME LOGAN COMMONS

Hamilton County Commissioner President,
Denise Driehaus spoke about the \$40 million
the County set aside to target the senior
population and said "Who better to partner
with to keep seniors in their homes than
CMHA, and so we are proud partners in
providing affordable housing to our senior
community in Hamilton County."
Commissioner Driehaus praised the beautiful
facility and all the new amenities provided to
the seniors, especially the courtyard space
filled with greenery in the heart of the city.
She didn't forget to mention the amazing view
from all sides of the building!



Kelly Lanser, Findley Market CEO, Michael Dunn, Meals on Wheels CEO, Kellen Showes, Director of Compliance at the Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA), Brian Graney, Principal at Marble Cliff Capital, and Stephen Tanner, First Financial Bank were also present at the Grand Opening event. Mr. Johnson recognized the staff who worked tirelessly to make the building and grand opening event a success. Tours were available for all attendees to view apartments on the fourth floor of the building. They had a great view of Findley Market and the murals along Elm Street and Logan Street.



Mayor of Cincinnati Aftab Pureval said he "is proud to be part of the coalition created to bring Logan Commons to OTR." He invited Ms. Cynthia Hill to the podium to share a few words about her excitement in being a resident of this new little community. Ms. Hill spent years of her childhood growing up on Logan Street. She was passionate about "coming back home" and said "it was nothing but a spot when she was eight years old!". Mayor Pureval stated "This is why we are all here. Your (speaking to Ms. HIII) passion for housing is why we are all here and your excitement is what brought us all together to make this project come to life."





Mr. Johnson touring with Lann Field and Hamilton County Clerk of Courts Pavin Parikah with two Hamilton County employees.

A person touring one of the resident kitchen.

The residential apartments include all stainless steel appliances and include an ice maker and kitchen disposal. They are spacious and filled with natural light.





a library, an entertainment room, and an outdoor courtyard.

Common spaces in the building offer amenities such as an exercise room, a computer room,



### HCV UPDATES INFORMATION REGARDING WAITLIST

Last year, the Housing Choice Voucher program paused pulling prospective participants from the waitlist to be active in the program. This was due to a HUD notification to CMHA of a potential financial shortfall.

HUD recently notified CMHA and HCV that it was no longer projecting a shortfall status. This means the HCV may resume assisting more families with affordable housing. As families are notified, they will be looking for affordable housing throughout Hamilton County.

Your Rental Connection offers voucher holders an opportunity to meet with potential property owners/managers with vacant units.

Your Rental Connection occurs every Tuesday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at 1635 Western Avenue.

#### **UPCOMING "CMHAU" EVENTS THIS SUMMER**



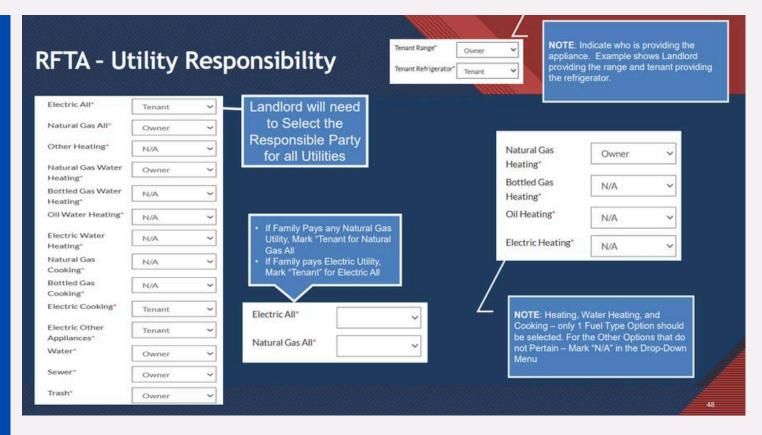
The Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority moved voucher issuance, intakes, briefings, and Request for Tenancy Approvals (RFTA) online. We understand this is a big change, and CMHA is offering informational sessions for you.

The sessions will be held online via Teams, and you may need to download the app. Please consider joining us for one of the following:

Mondays: 9 am to 10 am July 7, July 14, July 21 or July 28

Fridays: 2 pm to 3 pm

July 11, July 18, July 25 August 1, 2025



CMHA has moved online for RFTA submission. We are currently seeing an increase in errors for the utility section. Please make sure you are reviewing and completing all required forms and the utility section accurately.

Do this by choosing the appropriate option in the dropdown box for each utility that is in the unit and who is responsible for paying said utility. Also, if you charge a flat fee for water, etc, and you complete the RUBS form, be sure to put matching information on the RFTA. Discrepancies will result in the RFTA being canceled, and it will need to be resubmitted correctly.

CMHA will allow 2 business day submissions for water bills and acceptance of lower rents, but other items will result in an RFTA cancellation.

#### WAYS TO PAY RENT ARE CHANGING



CMHA's Low-Income Public Housing Program and Touchstone Property Services are changing the ways available for residents to pay rent. As CMHA transitions to Rent Café and a fully digital platform, CMHA can no longer accept processing rent through mailed checks or money orders to the PO Box or management offices. There are several ways that residents can pay rent through the Rent Café platform including, ACH payments where residents can provide their bank account information (checking) to have automatic payments deducted every month. Debit and Credit Card payments are also available through Rent Café.

The last available payment option is a "WIP" or walk-in payment for those looking to submit a physical check or money order to local locations (Kroger, Walgreens, Walmart, etc.). The process includes the resident using their assigned barcode, available on their Rent Café account, to scan and process their rent payment.

#### **ASSET MANAGEMENT ENCOURAGES RESIDENTS** TO PARTICIPATE IN RENT CREDIT PROGRAM!

Asset Management began a Rent Credit Program to assist residents who want to do work around their properties to assist in their rental obligations.

The residents will apply for the program with their property managers and agree on a wage. The income is then credited to the resident's account monthly. Residents cannot earn more than the monthly rent they owe.

Some jobs that residents can choose are:

Grounds clean-up Beautification and Landscaping Janitorial



CMHA is offering opportunities to CMHA residents to work for rental credits.

How it works: The resident works so many hours based on an agreed wage, and the income is credited to the resident's account monthly. The maximum amount earned can not be greater than the amount of rent paid per month.

Available positions now: Grounds pick up Beautification/Landscaping **Janitorial** 

Responsibilities will vary by site. For any questions, reach out to your Property Manager



Scan the QR Code if interested!





### HOMEOWNERSHIP SESSIONS ARE UNDERWAY

CMHA in Partnership with HUFF Realty will be offering a three-part series about homeownership and positioning to move in that direction.

The next two sessions for Homeownership are fast approaching. Be sure not to miss out if you are considering Homeownership in the future.

#### Mortgage Matters-July 24, 2025

- Pre-Approval
- Mortgage Types
- Interest Rates
- Mortgage Insurance

#### **Home Buying Process-TBD**

- Finding a Real Estate Agent
- House Hunting
- Home Inspection
- Using Your Voucher
- Market Research



In addition, there will be ongoing sessions to keep everyone updated on the following:

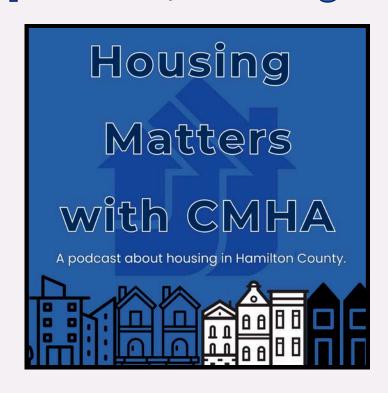
- Property Taxes
- Homeowners Insurance
- Maintenance and Repairs
- HOA Fees (If applicable)
- Neighborhood Research

You can register at www.cintimha.com/calendar





## Take a listen to our episodes on our podcast, *Housing Matters with CMHA*:





**Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority** 

### Rent Café is Here!

You can get your personal Tenant Code from your Property Manager, if you are not signed up already!



### What does this mean for you?

- A simpler way to pay your rent
- Faster ways in uploading documents for recertification
- An all-in-one system that allows you to see work orders placed, documentation required, and rent statements with CMHA

### All Residents Required to Sign Up for Rent Cafe

CMHA Asset Management/Public Housing is moving to Rent Cafe to better assist residents in paying rent, uploading documents for recertification, placing work orders, and much more.



SCAN HERE TO VISIT THE CMHA RENT CAFE WEBSITE

### CMHA IS ENFORCING THE NO SMOKING POLICY



## Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority Smoking Policy







- CMHA's policy on smoking states that residents must smoke outdoors in designated areas ONLY.
- Per your lease agreement and HUD's rule all public housing buildings are smoke-free.
- Violating this rule could result in eviction.

CMHA and Touchstone
Management Services Property
Management is heavily enforcing
the 'No Smoking Policy' instituted
by HUD.

Due to Federal Regulations, there is a zero tolerance policy for smoking in the unit or away from the designated smoking areas in our communities. Please advise all residents that the 'No Smoking Policy' is a condition of their lease agreement and will result in a lease violation and potentially eviction.



### IMPORTANT NOTICE: NON-PAYMENT OF RENT MAY CAUSE EVICTION

CMHA strongly encourages residents who are behind on their rent to contact property managers. Residents are being notified with 30-day notices and 3-day notices of eviction for non-payment of rent. CMHA is willing to work with you to agree on terms for a re-payment agreement. There are ways that residents can avoid eviction.

- 1. Residents: that if you lose your job or source of income, your rent can be decreased. You **MUST** see your Property Manager.
- 2. Residents: CMHA is willing to work with you on re-payment agreements, but you **MUST** meet with your Property Manager.
- 3. Residents may voluntarily move out of the unit to avoid eviction on their records.
- 4. Other assistance resources are available and can be found directly on our website at <a href="https://cintimha.com/resources-for-resident-services/">https://cintimha.com/resources-for-resident-services/</a>

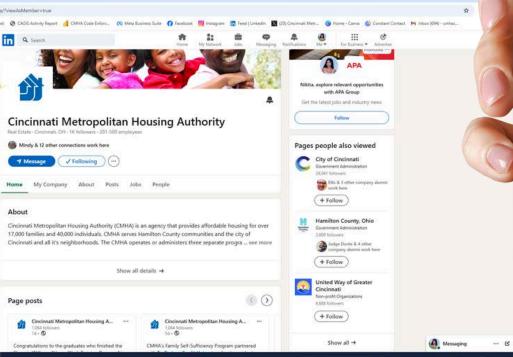
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