

Weatherization Program On The Rise...

In the short time that the Butler County Weatherization Program has been in existence our team has been able to help over sixty-nine (69) families “weatherize” their homes. Families have been able to get those insulation issues resolved before the cold weather hits. Insulation is just one of the many ways our team is weatherizing homes in Butler County. Eligible clients are receiving home energy audits in which their heating systems, insulation, weather-stripping and caulking are all being inspected. We currently have seventy-five (75) in progress and another one hundred twenty-five (125) eligible clients in our system. These milestones are being achieved because of the hard work of our dedicated Weatherization team. Every day we are receiving “notes of thanks,” from our clients. If you would like to find out what they are thanking us for, contact Kathy Miller in our Weatherization Department (724) 287.6797 to find out more!

www.housingauthority.com

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A publication of the Butler County Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Housing Matters is published throughout the year by the Housing Authority of the County of Butler.

Executive Director: Perry O'Malley

Editor: Ashley Pino

Butler County Housing Authority

114 Woody Drive

Butler, PA 16001

Phone: 724.287.6797

Email: bcha@housingauthority.com

Housing Matters

CONGRATULATIONS!

The Housing Authority
County of Butler's
Public Housing Program
and Section 8 Program
received the U.S.
Department of Housing
and Urban
Development's highest
recognition for FY 2010.
Both programs were
named
HIGH PERFORMERS!

\$500,000 Grant Awarded to Help Petrolia Area

The Owner Occupied Residential Rehabilitation Program was designed to preserve affordable housing in Butler County.

It is believed that the targeted housing area has some of the oldest housing units in the County. Many of these homes are in need of necessary improvements such as new windows for energy conservation but these improvements are being sacrificed due to the lack of income. The program will provide up to \$12,000 to qualified low income families who own and occupy their homes and reside in the targeted Petrolia Area. The Butler County Housing Authority has administered similar very successful programs over the years. Currently, residents in the Petrolia area may also be eligible to receive funding under the Emergency Repair Program, a program that issues a \$2,500 grant to qualified individuals and also from the U.S.D.A. Home Grant Program that issues grants up to \$2,500. The funding for the Owner Occupied Residential Rehabilitation Program is leveraged by the Butler County Commissioners with an Act 137 Recorder of Deeds fee \$100,000 match and will be used to increase the safety and livability of these homes as well as the overall value and appeal of the neighborhoods.

Commissioner Chairman, Dale Pinkerton says, “I am pleased the Housing Authority is targeting the Northeast Quadrant of the County. These rural areas are more in need and this program compliments the recent successful NSP I Blight Removal Program.” It is also crucial in promoting community sustainability, maintaining property values reducing gentrification, preventing blight and preserving housing stock for existing and future generations. It is anticipated that at least 40 homes in the Petrolia area will be rehabilitated as a result of this program. The Housing Authority will coordinate all rehab efforts in the Petrolia area, in conjunction, with the Redevelopment Authority's Neighborhood Stabilization project that is currently underway. The coordination of effort will result in creating considerable positive impact in this area. The program is open to all income-eligible, single family, owner-occupied residents in Butler County. Contact Jessica in our office at 724.287.6797 to find out more!

Butler County Housing & Redevelopment Authority

114 Woody Drive
Butler, PA 16001
Phone: 724.287.6797 Fax: 724.287.7906
Email: bcha@housingauthority.com

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:
Perry O'Malley

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:
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Renovations Underway at Historic Lafayette>>>

Historic Lafayette Receiving a Facelift!

The Butler County Housing Authority's two-year effort to receive funding for the renovation of the Historic Lafayette Apartments on Main Street, Butler closed on October 12, 2011. Renovations are set to begin soon. Improvements to the six story senior residential high-rise include a new heating vent and air conditioning system, exterior façade repair, window repair/replacement, sidewalk and curb replacement, and a host of other upgrades including the addition of three (3) full renovated accessible units for persons with disabilities. These updates will ensure long-term viability of the Historic Lafayette Apartments and enhance the quality of life for its residents.



We're on FACEBOOK. Visit the Housing and Redevelopment Authority County of Butler's page to get up to date information on programs, housing and MORE!



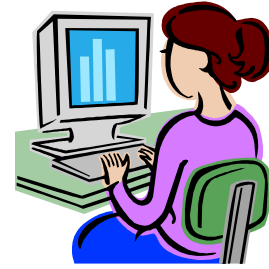
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RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RECENT S.H.O.P. GRADUATES:

(Supported Housing Opportunity Program)

- Roy Remone
- Frank Schaffner
- Lester Bailey



Remember to check out our **FREE MONTHLY COMPUTER CLASSES** offered at each of our buildings. Contact Martha Brown at 724.287.6797 to find out dates and times!

Tips To Save Energy This Winter

Simple energy conservation measures can lower your utility bills while increasing the comfort of your apartment. You make dozens of energy decisions every day.

- Take advantage of FREE solar heat, keep blinds open in the day to let sun in and close them at night to hold in the heat
- Set your thermostat to 68 degrees, 2-3 degrees lower if you are going to be away from home for a few hours.
- Turn off exhaust fans immediately after use.
- Don't let water run while shaving, doing dishes, brushing your teeth.
- Do only full loads of laundry and use cold water instead of hot.
- Turn off lights when not in use!
Turning off just one 60-watt incandescent light that would otherwise burn for 8 hours a day, can save up to \$15 a year!

Having A Maintenance Issue?

Please remember to call in a work order! Help our maintenance team out by calling in your own work order so that they can continue to service you!



Affordable Apartments Available>>>

Parker Heights Apartments



Parker Heights is located at 302 North Wayne Avenue in Parker, PA. This beautiful facility boasts 27 one bedroom affordable housing apartments for limited income individuals, age 62 or older. Rent is based on income. Residents are responsible for telephone and cable TV.

For more information contact:

Housing Authority of the County of Butler
114 Woody Drive
Butler, PA 16001
724.287.6797 or 1.800.433.6327
TDD: 800.545.1833 x772
www.housingauthority.com

Personnel Updates

The Authority Welcomes New Staff

Marlene Fischer began employment as a Maintenance Coordinator October 17, 2011. She brings with her an extensive background in all aspects of remodeling, contracting, maintenance and historic restoration and also served on the Cranberry Township Historical Society Board.

Lynn Albert began as a Management Trainee on October 24, 2011 and will be assisting the Public Housing Department. Lynn brings with her over 20 years of secretarial and customer service experience.

Exceptional Home for Sale >>>

219 North Bluff Street, Butler, PA \$74,500

This home has been remodeled and updated by the Butler County Home Ownership Program. Loads of updates including wall to wall carpet, interior doors, and complete remodeling of both baths. You will have lots of space to entertain in this updated home as it comes with a living room, dining room, attic and basement areas as well as an additional **BONUS ROOM!** You won't have to worry about making any updates to this home because it is **MOVE IN READY!** You will not find a better value in the city of Butler. Please note that this property is to be owner occupied only. Call April Mottern at 724.287.6797 for more details!

CONGRATULATIONS

To the Gibson family of 6 who relocated to Butler and recently purchased their first home on 336 Virginia Avenue. The Housing Authority purchased the home and remodeled it using grant money from the West End Acquisition Rehabilitation and Resale Program for First Time Homebuyers. We wish them many years of enjoyment in their new home.

