

# Owner-Occupied and Rehabilitation Programs

## Funding Available In Areas Throughout Butler County

If you are a resident of **Northeastern Butler County, Jefferson Township, Jackson Township, Forward Township, Connoquenessing Township, Lancaster Township or Slippery Rock Borough**, you may be eligible to receive a grant to rehabilitate your home. The Redevelopment Authority County of Butler currently has funding to assist low to moderate income homeowners in those targeted areas. Home improvements could include: windows, roofs, electric, plumbing, heating and other obvious structural defects. If you wish to be considered or learn more, contact our office at 724.287.6797 or visit our website [www.housingauthority.com](http://www.housingauthority.com).

### Funding Sought for Buffalo Township Economic Growth Initiative

The Redevelopment Authority of the County of Butler has submitted a \$2,000,000 funding request to the Department of Budget for the FY 2013 First Round under the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program targeting economic development projects in Buffalo Township.

The Buffalo Township Economic Growth Initiative is a multi-phased economic development project in a fast growing quadrant of Butler County that will promote job creation, quality of life and regional impact. Phase I includes a 190,000 SF Regional Multi-Sports Exhibition Center and Buffalo Town Center-a retail development with adjoining workforce housing. Phase II is a hotel located near the Rte 356/I-28 junction.

[www.housingauthority.com](http://www.housingauthority.com)

### Housing & Redevelopment Authority County of Butler

114 Woody Drive  
Butler, PA 16001  
Phone: 724.287.6797 Fax: 724.287.7906  
Email: [bcha@housingauthority.com](mailto:bcha@housingauthority.com)

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:**  
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Housing Matters is published throughout the year by the Housing Authority 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](mailto:bcha@housingauthority.com)

A publication of the Butler County Housing and Redevelopment Authority

# Housing Matters



### 19th Annual Scholarship Luncheon

The annual luncheon is being held June 26th from 12:00 - 2:00 pm at Days Inn in Butler, PA.

This fundraiser has been designated as an endowment to assist a high school student from the Authority's low-income Public Housing Program, along with adults from our Family Self-Sufficiency Program. These individuals will be attending a post-secondary institution with this financial assistance. Historically, many public and private citizens have contributed to the Authority's ongoing success in fulfilling its mission to provide affordable housing for the residents of Butler County. It is our goal to continue to build on this legacy by expanding educational opportunities and ending the cycle of poverty for the next generation as a means to a better society.

Please consider participating as a scholarship sponsor or a supporter of this most worthy cause. You will be investing in the future of Butler County. **Call our office at 724.287.6797 to learn how you can make a donation!**

### Redevelopment Authority of the County of Butler Set to Launch New County-Wide Blight Mitigation Program

The Redevelopment Authority of the County of Butler is partnering with the Butler County Commissioners, the City of Butler, the City's Redevelopment Authority, and Local Municipalities in Butler County. Also, a public/private partnership has been formed with both NexTier Bank and Northwest Savings Bank. This partnership will result in over \$1,000,000 in new funding that will be available to target blighted properties over the next five years throughout the County of Butler. The Blight Mitigation Program is a multi-pronged approach which includes: prevention, education, enforcement, acquisition, housing and rental rehabilitation and demolition. The first phase of the program is aimed at demolishing vacant and abandoned properties throughout the targeted areas in the City and County of Butler. The funding sources for the program will come from the Neighborhood Assistance Program Tax Credits thru NexTier Bank and Northwest Savings Bank, County and City CDBG Funds and County of Butler Act 137 funds. A blighted property is defined as any vacant or abandoned property with the following characteristics: unfit for human habitation, a public nuisance, structurally unsound with imminent danger of collapse, no utility service(s), and/or presence of vermin or a home for vagrants. Currently, there are estimated to be over 200 blighted properties located throughout the County of Butler. This program in the first year will begin to address and demolish some of these properties in the targeted areas. Additional areas will be targeted throughout the five year plan. Without intervention, blight will devastate these communities and lead to distressed statuses. Goals of the program include: creating stronger and more secure neighborhoods, improve quality of life and create attractive places to live by eliminating dangerous substandard housing, reducing crime and drug related blight, promoting housing stability and stabilizing and increasing the tax base.



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**CHECK OUT OUR NEWLY RENOVATED APARTMENTS AVAILABLE TO SENIORS!**

## Historic Lafayette Apartments

located at 302 South Main Street • Butler, PA



Maintenance and worry free living for when keeping up with your home becomes a burden! Start enjoying an **active senior lifestyle** today! The location is convenient to public transportation in the City of Butler and accessible units are now available!

To find out more or obtain an application contact:  
The Housing Authority of the County of Butler  
114 Woody Drive Butler PA 16001  
724 287-6797 or 1-800-433-6327  
TDD # 1-800-545-1833 Ext. 772



### Housing Authority Donates to Local Fire Departments

Each year the Housing Authority of the County of Butler makes a monetary donation to each of the fire departments where they own housing developments. The Housing Authority strongly supports both local and volunteer fire departments and appreciates the excellent service each of these fire departments provides to their local communities. These funds are dedicated to fire prevention and fire safety programs including: providing on-site training for our residents relative to emergencies, evacuation, fire prevention and education.

This year the Housing Authority of the County of Butler contributed \$300 to each of the fire departments serving the communities of Evans City, Zelenople, Slippery Rock and Chicora. We also donated \$600 to the City of Butler's Fire Department for their service to the Authority owned residential communities located within the City of Butler.

In addition the Housing Authority is occasionally able to assist with special requests. The City of Butler is raising funds to pay for new turnout gear at a cost of \$12,000. The Authority has donated \$6,000 to help meet this essential need of the City of Butler's Fire Department.

### Housing Authority Personnel Updates

The Housing Authority would like to welcome three new staff members.

**Stacey Wehner** joined the Accounting team in February. Stacey is a recent graduate of Slippery Rock University and holds a Bachelors Degree in Accounting and Minor in Finance.

**Mara Flick** joined the Resident Initiatives team in April. She brings over seven years of experience working at both the Allegheny County Area on Aging and the Butler County Area on Aging. She earned her Bachelors Degree in Social Work from Slippery Rock University.

**Rachel Milligan** has joined the Housing Authority as a part-time Maintenance Clerk.

The Housing Authority would also like to say goodbye to two maintenance team members who will be retiring.

**Charlie Dillion, Jr.** will be retiring after 13 1/2 years and **Carl Devore** after 7 years with the Housing Authority. They will both be greatly missed and we wish them luck in the future.

## Resident Spotlight

### Section 8 Success Story



I love my new house it is so nice for me and my family. I love my new school and my room 517. Everyone in Evans city is so welcoming!!

Love  
Evy McLaughlin

Thank You HUD & BCHA for helping me give me & my children a beautiful home!  
Charity McLaughlin

Thank you HUD and BCHA for our great house and for helping us. Also since we got a house I finally got my dog's seat.  
Thx,  
Cole McLaughlin

Feed your body, mind and soul!

Tips for eating healthy and eating well

**Eat more fruits and vegetables** – For all ages, incorporating fruits and vegetables into a diet is a great way to stay healthy.

**Reduce sodium intake** – Use ingredients that are low in sodium when cooking and avoid foods that are packed with sodium. Avoiding sodium can help lower blood pressure and reduce water retention.

**Enjoy healthy fats** – The fats in fish, nuts, olive oil and avocados are helpful in protecting the body against bad levels of LDL cholesterol while also raising good levels of HDL cholesterol.

**Add fiber to your diet** – Fiber can help regulate digestion and lower the risk of a variety of chronic diseases

**Avoid hidden sugars** – Sugar can be hiding in things like bread, canned soup and fast food. Avoid these sugars and choose lower-carb options.

**Include five colors on a plate** – Following this rule will make it easier to incorporate healthy fruits and veggies into your diet.

**Avoid bad carbs** – Whole grains, beans, fruits and vegetables are a great way to incorporate healthy carbs into your diet.

**Congratulations to the winning team of our office-wide weight loss challenge: Dave's Babes!**

### 2013 HOMEBUYER EVENT

Each year a homebuyer event is held to help first time homebuyers through the 'homebuying' process. Vendors such as banks, mortgage lenders, credit counselors and realtors attend the event and hold informational seminars. This year the event was held on April 3rd at Tanglewood Center in Butler, it is free to the public. Thank you to all of our vendors who participated and to our sponsors who helped make the event a success: **PNC Bank, Dollar Bank, PHFA, S&T Bank and The Rock Station 97.7!**

