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- 2233 CityGate Drive Columbus, OH 43219

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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MISSION STATEMENT

Providing safe, accessible and affordable housing to persons with disabilities.

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2023







Changing Housing. Building Hope.

ELEVATE ENHANCE & ENGAGE

We are going to **elevate** & **enhance** our business strategies to embrace technological advances. We encourage people to **engage** us by sharing ideas or asking questions, completing a home survey online and by enjoying opportunities to volunteer in the community.

Live in one of our homes?



Scan the QR code above or click here.

- 1 Welcome New Staff and Dog Days
- 12 Happy Retirement Rosharon and Leonard
- Changing lightbulbs, Keeping your home clean & safe, Fire Safety, Multi Family Alarms
- Drones, Virtual Tours, Online Payments & Access, and PMRS
- Kroger Community Rewards, Accessible Playgrounds, Fundraiser Info and Ticket
- 2nd Annual Cleaner Columbus, Good Sports, Critty's Corner and Vote New Paint Color

WELCOME

Field Services
Associate
Stephanie Javins



Stephanie has 20 years of IDD experience.

Housing Quality
Associate





Logan has 8 years of IDD experience.

Accounts Payable Associate

Alisia Rucker



Alisia has a year of experience in property management.









DOG DAYS

Our office became pet-friendly January 2023, and we welcomed a four legged friend to the family in response to staff feedback. Kenzie belongs to our COO, Eric Frentzel who graciously shares her rambunctious antics with the office. Kenzie is there most days and other staff bring their furry friends occasionally to help spread joy

and make people smile too.

The <u>University</u> of <u>Southern California's Applied Psychology</u> department posted that "Pets can keep workplace spirits high and add some comic relief, which can be critical for the overall office mood. Pets in the workplace can also have calming effects, reduce blood pressure, lower stress, and make employees more cordial and productive.." According to <u>Forbes.com</u>, petfriendly workplaces are a win-win for employee wellbeing. And <u>Allwork</u> identified these 5 science-backed benefits of having dogs at work:



- 2. Increase teamwork & morale
- 3. Encourage regular breaks
- 4. Increase productivity
- 5. Increase employee retention & decreases absences











We are sad to be saying farewell to a couple of people this year. Rosharon Cardell and Leonard Barron will both be retiring after many years of service with CH|CR.

Rosharon began her journey at the very beginning with Pat Rafter who founded the company in 1991. She helped shape the foundation and dedicated 32 years of her career to providing safe and accessible housing to persons with developmental disabilities. She looks forward to traveling and enjoying her retirement.

Leonard worked with us as a contractor before becoming an employee in 1997, being part of the CH|CR family for 30 years. Always wearing a smile, he enjoys keeping our homes safe for our tenants. He rounds out his tenure as a Field Mentor, sharing his years of insight and care with new field staff. He is looking forward to traveling and relaxing, especially throughout the winter months.

**Come by to celebrate their retirement with us. We will be hosting an open house September 14th from 10:30a – 1p. We will have pancakes and more – if you would like to partake in food and beverages, RSVP is required. If you would like to be on the email list for an RSVP invitation, please email info@creativehousing.org.







HOW MANY CH EMPLOYEES DOES IT TAKE TO CHANGE A LIGHTBULB? NONE, YOU CAN DO IT WITH THESE EASY TIPS!

- Make sure the power is turned off. Identify the light switch for the light fixture you will be working on and make sure it is turned off. If it's a lamp, unplug the cord before you change the light bulb or you could risk getting shocked.
- Let the bulb cool off before you unscrew it. If the light was on recently, the bulb will be hot to the touch, and you could burn your fingers.
- If the bulb is in a ceiling fixture, use a sturdy stepladder instead of a chair. That way you can reach the light bulb safely without falling.
- Contact us with any questions or to receive more tips about how to safely change all the lightbulbs in your home: <u>maintenance@creativehousing.org</u>.



You can also use your handy dandy stepladder to clean bathroom exhaust fans. A quick dusting each month will prevent buildup and keep it running smoothly.









A quick inexpensive way to give your stovetop a facelift is installing new drip pans. It will also help the burners function safely and properly.

FIRE SAFETY

Beware of fire hazards.

Cooking, heating, electrical outlets, cigarettes, and candles are common fire hazards.

Check fire alarms.

Test smoke alarms every month. Replace batteries every year.

Know what to do.

Create a fire escape plan with exit points for every room in your home.

Conduct a fire drill.

Practice your fire escape plan. Know who to call in case of a fire. Stay calm and give them your address with landmarks.



MULTI FAMILY ALARMS

In response to stakeholder feedback, we will be updating our alarm systems in multi-unit buildings. Details to come! If you have questions about this upcoming safety system contact: maintenance@creativehousing.org



DRONE FOOTAGE

Creative Housing | Creative Renovations has taken flight by utilizing drone footage of our properties. Most of the properties have already had the exterior images captured, which a few are shared below. Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions you may have regarding this exciting project. <a href="mailto:mail







VIRTUAL TOURS

In response to stakeholder feedback about challenges of being able to tour homes, we will be completing virtual tours of all Creative Housing homes this year. This will allow people better access to "visiting" a house. Access to virtual tours of a home will be limited to prospective tenants as authorized by Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities.

ONLINE PAYMENTS

Rent is due on the 1st of each month. The grace period is until the 5th of the month. If rent is not received by the 5th, it will be considered late. The late fee is 5% of the monthly rent. Stay tuned for details about the up and coming Yardi Rent Café.



Visit https://creativehousing.org/home/ to make a payment online.

ONLINE ACCESS

In response to stakeholder feedback, we will be enhancing online access for submitting service requests, paying rent and reviewing tenant ledgers in 2023.

More to come soon!



CH | CR PRIVATE MARKET RENT SUBSIDY



Debi and Madison attended the ribbon cutting event for the apartment community Maple Meadows on May 23, 2023. If you have questions about our Rent Subsidy department please contact: privatemarketrent@creativehousing.org.

PMRS tenant, Aaron who lives at Maple Meadows shared a picture of his dog, Ol' Girl with us.

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

CH|CR is enrolled in a community rewards program with Kroger. We are asking for your support by linking your Kroger savings card. Once your card is enrolled, you'll be supporting CH|CR while you grocery shop!

Please visit http://www.kroger.com then simply log into your Kroger account and search for Creative Housing Inc or SH364 then click enroll. By doing this, a percentage of what you spend at Kroger will be donated to Creative Housing! We appreciate your support while you're Krogering!

ACCESSIBLE PLAYGROUNDS

Tired of being stuck in the house? Here are some great ways to get out and enjoy the weather.

- 345 E. Wilson Bridge Rd. Worthington Ohio
- 4900 Sawmill Road, Columbus Ohio
- 4040 Wyandotte Woods Blvd. Dublin Ohio
- 745 N Spring Road, Westerville Ohio
- 200 McCutcheon Road, Gahanna Ohio
- 760 E. Livingston Ave, Columbus Ohio
- 1755 E Broad St. Columbus Ohio
- 3899 Orders Road, Grove City Ohio

From Columbus on the Cheap "The Best accessible Playgrounds in Columbus for all abilities" -Val

For more accessibility options contact our projects department at: projects@creativehousing.org.

CREATIVE HOUSING | CREATIVE RENOVATIONS FUNDRAISER

Enjoy a night out while supporting CH|CR! Visit the Buffalo Wild Wings in <u>Hilliard</u> or <u>Grandview</u> between 4pm-9pm on Monday August 7, 2023. Present the coupon below upon arrival and a portion of what you spend on your meal will be donated to help support CH|CR. We hope to see you all there!



EAT WINGS, RAISE FUNDS"

Buffalo Wild Wings® strives to support our community and the organizations and sports teams within it. Together we can make a positive impact and help keep our community working and playing together.

On the day listed below, present this ticket to your server and Buffalo Wild Wings will donate 15%* of your total bill (not including tax, gratuity, alcohol or promotional discounts) to our organization.

CREATIVE HOUSING I CREATIVE RENOVATIONS

MONDAY AUGUST 7TH // 4:00 PM TO 9:00 PM EDT

DINE IN OR TAKEOUT

968 W 5th Ave • Columbus (Grandview) | 1710 Hilliard Rome Rd • Hilliard

"The 15% donation is contingent on the organization raising at least \$300 of pre-tax sales during the promotion (subject to change in our discretion).

Other restrictions may apply. Please see participating location for details. ©2023 Bulfalo Wild Wings, Inc.





The 2nd Annual Cleaner Columbus Citywide Cleanup was on April 1, 2023.

Some CH|CR staff and their family members were part of a total of 338 volunteers that gathered to collect over 802 bags of litter/debris. Which removed 12,313 pounds of trash from more than 40 Columbus neighborhoods! We hope to see even more volunteers next year.



CH|CR is proud to be a sponsor of the <u>3rd</u> <u>Annual Good Sport Charity Golf Tournament Fundraiser</u>. Our staff will also be volunteering the day of the event, which helps support local charities. The event takes place on Monday August 21, 2023 at Lakes Golf and Country Club located in Westerville, Ohio.

Top Left: Critty with Councilmember Emmanuel V. Remy





Top Right: Volunteers with Scarlet the Cardinal



Above: Cleaner Cbus crew that picked up trash on Karl Rd.

CRITTY'S CORNER

As CEO, I have been listening to feedback from tenants, guardians/families, providers, FCBDD and advocates. CH | CR is committed to engaging with stakeholders and enhancing its services to elevate the experiences of both the folks we serve and the folks supporting them.

I am thrilled to announce that after many, many requests to change the Dover White color of our home interiors, enclosed with this newsletter are paint chips of our current Dover White and 4 new neutral colors for consideration. If you are reading this newsletter online, feel free to stop by our office or your local Sherwin Williams paint store to pick up sample paint chips.

SW 6385 Dover White SW 7004 Snowbound

SW 7632 Modern Gray SW 7671 On the Rocks SW 7666 Fleur de Sel

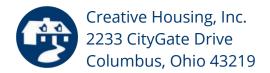


YOU will decide what our new color will be! Please <u>click here</u> or scan the QR code above and click on the VOTE New Paint Color! button to get to the survey.

Thanks to Sherwin Williams for providing us with over 7,000 paint chip samples for this initiative!

If you would like to chat about anything, please feel free to call me at 614.418.7725 x 26 or email me at ceo@creativehousing.org.

^{*}Printed colors above may not match the actual color- best to get a paint chip.



Would you like to be featured in a future Newsletter?

We are always looking for opportunities to include our tenants! Email your photos and stories to info@creativehousing.org for a chance to be featured in one of our upcoming Newsletters!

Stay Connected!

No one likes being the last to know.... Check out our website <u>www.creativehousing.org</u> and subscribe to our newsletter or email <u>info@creativehousing.org</u> and we will sign you up – be sure to include if you are a tenant, family member, guardian, provider or county board staff.

If you want to be in-the-know of renovation, equipment and assistive technology happenings, visit our renovations website at www.accessibilityrenovations.org and subscribe to our newsletter or email your information to projects@creativehousing.org and we will sign you up – be sure to include whether or not you are an existing or potential client, tenant, family member, guardian, provider, or county board staff.

Contact Us

Phone: 614.418.7725

Email:

General Inquiries - info@creativehousing.org
Creative Housing Rental Inquiries - leasing@creativehousing.org
Creative Housing Maintenance - maintenance@creativehousing.org
Rent and Payables - payables@creativehousing.org
Waiver and Private Pay Services - projects@creativehousing.org
Private Market Rent Subsidy Program - privatemarketrent@creativehousing.org

