

# Neighborhood UPDATE



AUGUST 2022

## THE MUNICIPAL HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF YONKERS

### A Letter from Wilson Kimball



The COVID epidemic exposed a lot of cracks in the foundation of an American society I took for granted was stable, strong and settled. You have to

expect a housing analogy from someone who has worked in the construction/housing field for nearly two decades.

But, the fact of the matter is America, like many other countries, has access to health care, education, mental health care, and housing challenges. The last time the Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers (MHACY) opened its Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) waitlist was in 2011. There were literally thousands of people on the waiting list for a decade.

In the last two years MHACY has sent out thousands of “save my spot” letters, provided vouchers at approximately 175 a year (using 2019 as a measure) and provided renovated municipal housing. We have made available every voucher

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### Housing Voucher Lottery Winners Now on MHACY Website

The list is out. People who applied to be a put on a waiting list for affordable housing vouchers can now see if they were selected online.

The Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers (MHACY) held a lottery at the Yonkers Riverfront Library on August 2 and 3 to select 3,000 people who qualify for affordable housing. It was the first time in more than 10 years that MHACY had opened its waiting list for Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8) for affordable housing.

The vouchers are provided through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and subsidizes rental units in market rate buildings for income-qualifying tenants. MHACY received more than 14,500 applications.

Those chosen can visit the MHACY website at [www.mhacy.org](http://www.mhacy.org) to check if they were selected. They will also receive letters in the mail. Those chosen are not guaranteed vouchers but are added to a list of those who will be eligible to receive vouchers as they become available.

“Opening the MHACY waiting list has been 10 years in the making. We are not surprised by the number of people who have applied for housing and are excited to be able to make quality affordable housing available. It is a basic need,” said Wilson Kimball, President and CEO of MHACY. “Our partnership with Mayor Spano and the City of Yonkers on several affordable housing issues helped us reach this

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@mhacyonkers

[mhacy.org](http://mhacy.org)

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## A Letter from Wilson Kimball

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we could with strategic partnerships with affordable housing partners like Westhab and Conifer.

The issue now is no longer that we haven't updated our lists or renovated our housing stock or extended our hand in partnership to every private landlord we could find. The issue now is that the federal government needs to provide more vouchers and not just for "low income" households because in Westchester even people who used to be considered "middle class" are falling behind and becoming the "working poor".

America is a great country. I have always believed it. And I still believe it. Just like I know we can do better by our people.

### Wilson Kimball

*President & CEO*

Municipal Housing Authority for the City of Yonkers

## Housing Voucher Lottery Winners Now on MHACY Website

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day. And nothing would have been possible without the support of the Board of Commissioners of MHACY."

Mayor Mike Spano, who was on hand for the lottery drawing on August 2, said, "Housing is key to the vitality of any city. In addition to the thousands of units of new market rate housing that are going up, we have renovated MHACY housing and are now making more affordable housing available through the use of these vouchers in partnership with building owners."

Chairman of the MHACY Board of Commissioners James Landy added, "Opening our waiting list is momentous as it allows people needing rental assistance the chance to find affordable decent housing that has become out of reach for so many. We are very proud to afford Yonkers residents this opportunity."

The lottery drawing was public and monitored by auditors to assure fairness in the selection process. It was livestreamed on the MHACY Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/mhacyonkers>.



*Left to right: County Legislator Christopher Johnson; Community Liaison for Andrea Stewart-Cousins office Symra Brandon; Mulford Corp. Board Member John Liszewski; Congressman Jamaal Bowman; City Council President Lakisha Collins-Bellamy; MHACY President & CEO Wilson Kimball; MHACY Board Chairman Jim Landy; Mayor Mike Spano; MHACY COO Carlos Laboy-Diaz; MHACY Board Member Denise Egiziaco, and Novogradac Auditor Rich Larsen*

## Free Oral Cancer Screenings at NewYork-Presbyterian Lawrence Hospital

NewYork-Presbyterian Lawrence Hospital is hosting a free oral cancer health screening with Columbia University College of Dental Medicine

Regular examination of your mouth, lips, tongue, teeth, and gums by an oral care specialist can help spot oral cancer, precancers, tooth decay, and other problems early, when they are most treatable.

NewYork-Presbyterian Lawrence Hospital is providing a free 20-minute oral health screening for adults aged 18 and older by dentists, dental hygienists, and other oral healthcare providers.

If the examination shows that you need additional care, we can connect you with an oral care provider for follow-up. Spanish-speaking providers will be available.

 **NewYork-Presbyterian**  
Lawrence Hospital

## FREE ORAL CANCER SCREENINGS

Friday, August 26, 2022

9 a.m.–3 p.m.

55 Palmer Ave

Bronxville, NY 10708

*Use main entrance and take silver elevators to level B1.*

To preregister and make an appointment, contact Dayana Lyaght.

Phone: 914-787-6019

Email: [dal9139@nyp.org](mailto:dal9139@nyp.org)





## Green Team Busy at MHACY

Groundwork Hudson Valley's Green Team has been working on MHACY properties this summer. The youth including some from MHACY have been removing invasive vines and planting ground cover at the Doran townhouses. They also have been building an infiltration trench to improve stormwater management at Christopher townhouses and planting a rain garden at Reagan townhouses. At Walsh they are cleaning the riverbank, replanting the flower berm, and rebuilding the stone raised flower bed. Let us know if you see them at work in your area!



Green Team planting Rain Garden at Reagan Townhouses.



Green Team digging trench at Christopher Townhouses.

## Verizon Offers Free Internet Service

Get **free** home internet with ACP and Fios Forward. Verizon is proud to keep people connected by participating in the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program. Customers approved for the program, can get free Fios Home Internet with Verizon's Fios Forward discount. Qualifying households who sign up for this plan can enjoy speeds of 300/300 Mbps for \$0/mo. Get Free Fios Home Internet Fios Home Internet for \$0/mo Verizon is part of a government-sponsored program that gives you fast speeds at an affordable price. Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is a government program providing eligible households with internet service discounts.

To learn more visit  
[verizon.com/fiosforward](https://www.verizon.com/fiosforward).

To set up service, please call  
888-756-0144.

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