



MARCH / 2023

# HAVE YOU JOINED THE RENT CAFÉ PORTAL?

Sign up now for 24/7 access to:

Submit income and family composition changes Complete your annual re-examination View tenant and owner forms

For help signing up, or questions regarding your Rent Café Portal account, e-mail <u>RentCafePortal@lacda.org</u>.

If you have already signed up, remember to check your e-mail frequently to ensure you don't miss any notifications from the Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA).

Click here to access the Rent Café Portal.

### **RESOURCES FOR OLDER ADULTS**

Los Angeles County Libraries provide resources and materials to help older adults build new skills and stay connected. Attend live virtual events, watch informative videos on our YouTube channel, and check out the books in their recommended booklists.

Silver STEAMers is a program that brings fun and educational experiences to older adults through STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) events.

Click here for more information.

Los Angeles County Community and Senior Centers host multiple community-based support groups for caregivers and seniors. Additionally, they have support groups dedicated to mental health and wellness. Community members can participate in special events held at the centers such as movie days, bingo, and trips to fun educational sites.

Click here for more information.



### PREPARING FOR A HOUSING QUALITY STANDARDS (HQS) INSPECTION

#### **NEW CONTRACT HQS INSPECTIONS:**

- All utilities (gas, water, electricity) must be turned on.
- The refrigerator and/or stove need to be in the unit if they will be provided by the owner. A tenant-provided appliance certification form can be substituted for the presence of appliances if the Head of Household will be providing the stove and/or refrigerator.
- The unit must have one operable carbon monoxide detector centrally located outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms, and each detector shall be located on the wall or ceiling. If there are distinctly separate sleeping areas in the unit there must be a detector for each sleeping area. There must be at least one operable carbon monoxide detector on each level of the unit.
- The unit must be equipped with at least one properly working battery-operated or hard-wired smoke detector on each level of the unit. Whenever possible, smoke detectors should be installed in a hallway adjacent to a bedroom.
- The owner or their representative must be present to allow entry to the unit.
- Access to the water heater is necessary.

#### **ANNUAL/BIENNIAL HQS INSPECTIONS:**

- The unit should be clean, safe, and sanitary.
- The unit must have one operable carbon monoxide detector centrally located outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms, and each detector shall be located on the wall or ceiling. If there are distinctly separate sleeping areas in the unit, there must be a detector for each sleeping area. There must be at least one operable carbon monoxide detector on each level of the unit.
- The unit must be equipped with at least one properly working battery-operated or hard-wired smoke detector on each level of the unit. Whenever possible, smoke detectors should be installed in a hallway adjacent to a bedroom.
- The Head of Household or someone 18 years or older (with ID) must be present to allow entry to the unit.

For units built in or before 1978, the interior and exterior of the structure should be clear of deteriorated paint. This would include chipped, flaking, peeling, and other types of damaged painted surfaces on any walls, door/window frames, and baseboards.

# LUNCH AND LEARN WORKSHOP

Workshops are designed to provide participant families and owners an opportunity to learn about Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program requirements that may affect rental assistance.

#### March Lunch & Learn

Join the LACDA and the HQS Inspection staff to learn more about the HQS inspection process.

Thursday, March 16, 2023 11:00 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

Register in advance for this Zoom meeting at: Zoom Link: <u>bit.ly/3CYfTjH</u>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about how to join the meeting.

Phone: (626) 586-1654 E-mail: <u>HCVWorkshops@lacda.org</u>

## HOW TO REPORT SUSPECTED SECTION 8 FRAUD

You can report suspected Section 8 crime or fraud to the Crime/Fraud Tip Line. The hotline is confidential, and you can remain anonymous.

E-mail: <u>fraudhotline@lacda.org</u> - Crime/Fraud Tip Line: (877) 881-7233. If you prefer, you may send a letter anonymously to: Los Angeles County Development Authority Attention: Crime/Fraud Tip Line P.O. Box 1503, Alhambra, CA 91802

Even if you provide your name, we will never disclose it to the person you are reporting. Also, because of confidentiality, we cannot update an informant or provide outcomes of any investigations. When making a report, please provide as much information as possible about the suspect (name, address, social security number) and the activity. The LACDA looks into all reports of suspected crime/fraud in its programs. Please call 911 for emergencies or crimes in progress, and contact the local law enforcement agency to report illegal activity.

# **2023 Free Tax Day Events**



#### **Chinatown Service Center**

Monterey Park Bruggemeyer Library 318 S Ramona Ave, Monterey Park, CA 91754 Supervisorial District 1 February 9 & 19, March 9 & 16, April 6 Between 9:00am – 5:00pm For more info call (213) 808-1795

#### **Kaimore Group**

Lennox Library 4359 Lennox Blvd, Lennox, CA 90304 Supervisorial District 2 February 18 & 25, March 4, 11 & 18 Between 10:00am – 2:00pm For more info call (323) 570-2552

#### **Eastmont Community Center**

Nueva Maravilla Housing 4919 Cesar E Chavez Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90022 Supervisorial District 1 March 3 & 4 Between 9:00am – 3:00pm For more info call (800) 590-8749

Carmelitos Housing 1000 Via Wanda, Long Beach, CA 90805 Supervisorial District 4 March 7 & 8 Between 9:00am – 3:00pm For more info call (590) 590-8749

#### **Haven Neighborhood Services**

Virginia Park/Pico Branch Library 2200 Virginia Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90404 Supervisorial District 3 February 11, March 8 Between 1:00pm – 5:00pm For more info call (213) 375-4663

Cerritos College 11110 Alondra Blvd, Cerritos, CA 90650 Supervisorial District 4 March 25 Between 9:00am – 4:00pm For more info call (213) 375-4663

#### **Mexican American Opportunity Foundation**

Mexican American Opportunity Foundation-Headstart 2650 Zoe Ave, Huntington Park, CA 90255 Supervisorial District 4 February 25, March 11 & 25 Between 9:00am – 3:00pm For more info please call (866) 626-3829

#### Strength Based Community Change

Lake Los Angeles Library 16921 E Ave O A, Palmdale, CA 93591 Supervisorial District 5 April 6 & 13 Between 9:00am – 1:00pm For more info please call (661) 264-1111 ext. 7200

> Visit <u>FreeTaxPrepLA.org</u> for more information on the free resources available to you this tax season!

Free Tax Prep LA is here to help your family save thousands of dollars this tax season. We offer free, reliable, accessible tax preparation services to all LA county residents — regardless of immigration status — and education on tax credits, like the EITC, that can save you over \$10,000 on your taxes.









# Let Us Help You REACH YOUR GOALS





#### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) is a voluntary program designed to help you increase earned income and enable families to make progress toward economic security. An FSS Coordinator will help pave the path by creating shortand long-term goals and link you to supportive social services.

#### ELIGIBILITY

You must be an adult part of the family composition with an LACDA Housing Choice Voucher or Public Housing participant.

#### EMPLOYMENT

Gaining employment does not necessarily mean that you will lose your housing. It means that you and your family will increase your income and are on track to achieving economic independence.

#### ESCROW ACCOUNT

You have the opportunity to establish an interest-bearing escrow account when the family reports to the LACDA an increase in wages.

# HOW TO REACH US

For more information: FSS Program (626) 586-1530 Fssprogram@lacda.org

Please send all correspondence to: Los Angeles County Development Authority P.O. Box 1503, Alhambra, CA 91802-1510



# Permítanos Ayudarle a ALCANZAR SUS METAS



#### VISIÓN GENERAL DEL PROGRAMA

La Autosuficiencia Familiar (FSS, por sus siglas en inglés) es un programa voluntario diseñado para ayudarle a incrementar sus ingresos y permitir que las familias progresen a la seguridad económica. Un Coordinador de FSS le ayudará a trazar el camino mediante la creación de metas a corto y largo plazo y le pondrá en contacto con servicios sociales de apoyo.

#### ELIGIBILIDAD

Usted debe ser un adulto que forme parte de la composición familiar con un participante en el programa de Bonos de Elección de Vivienda o de Vivienda Pública de LACDA.

#### EMPLEO

Obtener un empleo no significa necesariamente que vaya a perder su vivienda. Significa que usted y su familia incrementarán sus ingresos y estarán en condiciones de alcanzar la independencia económica.

#### CUENTA DE DEPÓSITO EN GARANTÍA

Usted tiene la oportunidad de establecer una cuenta de depósito en garantía con intereses cuando la familia informe a LACDA de un aumento en los salarios.

# CÓMO CONTACTARNOS

Para obtener más información: Programa FSS (626) 586-1530 Fssprogram@lacda.org

Por favor envíe toda la correspondencia a: Los Angeles County Development Authority P.O. Box 1503, Alhambra, CA 91802-1510



### LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# Community Forum: Medical Debt in LA

HUFFINGTON CENTER AT ST. SOPHIA CATHEDRAL Tuesday March 21 2:00 pm - 4:30pm

1324 S. Normandie Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90006

If you have faced medical debt, please consider adding your voice to this forum. Your experiences and insights are critical to finding solutions.

To register: eventbrite invitation

Interpretation services and parking will be available.

If you cannot attend but would like to share your story, please do so here: <u>ph.lacounty.gov/hccp/MedicalDebt</u>.



### DEPARTAMENTO DE SALUD PÚBLICA DEL CONDADO DE LOS ANGELES

# Foro Comunitario: Deuda médica en Los Ángeles

CENTRO HUFFINGTON EN LA CATEDRAL DE SANTA SOPHIA **martes 21 de marzo** 2:00 pm - 4:30pm

1324 S. Normandie Ave, Los Ángeles, CA 90006

Si ha enfrentado una deuda médica, considere agregar su voz a este foro. Sus experiencias y conocimientos son esenciales para encontrar soluciones.

Para registrarse: invitación de eventbrite

Habrá servicios de interpretación y estacionamiento disponible.

Si no puede asistir, pero desea compartir su historia, hágalo aquí: ph.lacounty.gov/hccp/MedicalDebt.

