



HACM HUB

Your Connection to HACM News and Updates

July 11, 2025

HACM HUB is your weekly source for trusted information and updates from the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee (HACM). Through this platform, we aim to provide clear communication and insights into the work being done to provide a continuum of affordable housing options that support self-sufficiency, good quality of life, and the opportunity to thrive.

CHERRY STREET COMMUNITY GARDEN BLOSSOMS AS A NEIGHBORHOOD GATHERING SPACE



Just a block from the Housing Authority's Cherry Court development, a beautiful community garden is in full bloom this summer on HACM-owned land, thanks to a long-standing partnership with Bloom MKE. Originally known as the 23rd Street Community Garden, this vibrant space was founded by HACM resident Sandra Shelton alongside a group of neighborhood women, including fellow HACM residents. Today, the Cherry Street Community Garden, located at 1431 and 1437 N. 23rd Street in Milwaukee's Midtown neighborhood, offers much more than fresh produce — it serves as a welcoming gathering place for residents, pollinators, and local artists alike.

Since 2011, the garden has transformed from a pair of vacant lots into a vibrant community gathering space with 33 raised garden beds, spot gardens showcasing alternative growing techniques, and even cherry and apple trees planted in collaboration with the City of Milwaukee. Recent upgrades made the beds more accessible, while grants have supported the addition of public art, shaded seating, and murals created by students from the Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design (MIAD) and University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee.

Through this partnership, HACM residents living within walking distance enjoy access to fresh, healthy food in a neighborhood considered a food desert. The garden also hosts a Garden Club, where members build community, learn new skills, and receive support from trauma-informed social workers.

The Cherry Street Community Garden is a shining example of how neighborhood beautification, food access, and cultural expression can grow together — all rooted in the legacy of agriculture and the spirit of community.

Learn more about Bloom MKE's work and how you can get involved at bloommke.org!

SPOTLIGHT ON THE PUBLIC HOUSING LEASING & COMPLIANCE TEAM: CONNECTING PEOPLE TO HOMES



Behind every person who moves into HACM's Public Housing is a hardworking team making it happen. The Public Housing Leasing & Compliance Department plays a vital role in connecting applicants to safe, affordable housing and supporting residents in maintaining their homes by ensuring compliance with HUD program requirements.

From processing applications and setting rent to completing annual recertifications, the team collaborates closely with property management staff to keep units filled and residents stably housed. Since its formation in 2020, the department has streamlined processes, strengthened partnerships, and helped maintain consistently high Public Housing occupancy rates.

Known for their friendly, responsive service, team members assist residents in navigating a new online system, respond to concerns with care, and work together to address challenges quickly and thoughtfully.

"This team shows up every day committed to helping people," said Marquette Treadway, Director of Leasing & Compliance. "I'm incredibly proud of the compassion they bring to their work and the support they offer to our residents, applicants, and each other."

Through their teamwork, attention to detail, and dedication, the Leasing & Compliance team continues to make a meaningful difference in the lives of HACM's Public Housing residents.

SECTION 8 RENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PROCESSING UPDATE



HACM would like to provide an update regarding the current status of the Section 8 Rent Assistance Program's recertification and lease renewal process. Due to processing delays, some program participants have experienced extended payment periods.

To support affected households and property owners, rent assistance payments have continued for up to 90 days beyond a tenant's lease expiration date. Our team

is working diligently to complete these recertifications and lease renewals as quickly as possible. Once a lease renewal is finalized, both the tenant and property owner will receive a copy, and any necessary payment adjustments — including retroactive amounts — will be processed at that time.

We sincerely appreciate the patience and understanding of our program participants, property owners, and community partners as we work to resolve this backlog and return to regular processing schedules.

INTRODUCING THE PUBLIC SAFETY QUICK-REFERENCE MAGNET

The Housing Authority's Public Safety Department is introducing a new Public Safety Magnet as a quick-reference tool for residents. The magnet provides clear guidance on how and when to contact HACM Public Safety, including what situations are high-priority or low-priority and when to call 911. This outreach effort aims to support safer communities by helping HACM's residents quickly determine the right response in emergency and non-emergency situations.

To ensure the magnet is helpful and user-friendly, HACM will begin with a limited rollout across its properties. The purpose of this phased approach is to collect resident feedback before expanding the initiative more broadly. Residents who would like to receive a magnet sooner may contact Public Safety at 414-286-5100 to request one.

Each magnet is designed to be placed in a visible spot—like a refrigerator or front door—making it easy for all members of the household to access in a moment of need. It's one more way HACM is working to keep residents informed, connected, and safe in their communities.

To report a Public Safety issue at a HACM property, please call (414) 286-5100, available 24 hours a day, or submit a [PUBLIC SAFETY CONCERN FORM](#), which can be completed anonymously if you prefer.



The magnet features two logos at the top: the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee logo on the left and the Public Safety logo on the right. Below the logos is a white box with a yellow border containing the following text:

HACM PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT
Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee Event Response

☎ LIFE-THREATENING EMERGENCY: **CALL 911**

☎ PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT LINE: **414-286-5100**

HACM Public Safety responds to high-priority and low-priority in a manner that is safe and effective as follows:

HIGH-PRIORITY EVENTS	LOW-PRIORITY EVENTS
• 🗡️ Weapon Involvement	• 🗣️ Noise Complaints
• 🤝 Fights/Physical Altercations	• 🚫 Loitering/Trespassing
• 🔥 Fire/Medical Distress/Alarms	• 🚫 Illegal Parking
• 🚑 Assist Police/Medical/Fire	• 🏠 Property Damage (Not in Progress)
• 🏥 Medical Emergency	• 👤 Neighbor Troubles
• 🚗 Elevator Entrapment	• 🚗 Suspicious Person/Vehicle (No Active Threat)
• 🧑 Unresponsive Person	• 🚗 Abandoned Vehicle
• 🚗 Vehicle Crash	• 📦 Lost or Found Property/ Theft of Package

High-Priority Events:

Require that residents call Law Enforcement (911) before calling Public Safety. Public Safety will respond as urgently and safely as possible.

Low-Priority Events:

Residents are encouraged to call Public Safety when a low-priority event occurs. Public Safety Specialists will respond when available. Response times may vary due to other calls for service.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION UPDATES

Mitchell Court Public Listening Session: The HACM Board of Commissioners will host a Public Listening Session at Mitchell Court, 2600 W. National Ave., on Wednesday, July 23, at 1 PM. More information available at hacm.org/boardmeetings.

Immigrant Community Resources: Find helpful services, programs, and support for Milwaukee's immigrant communities at city.milwaukee.gov/ERC.

City's Summertime Guide: Visit the City of Milwaukee's guide to enjoying a fun and safe summer. Find resources and helpful information at city.milwaukee.gov/summer.

Milwaukee Recreation Activity Guide: Milwaukee Recreation hosts activities and events for youth, teens, adults, and seniors at community centers across the city. Check out this season's variety of fun and affordable classes at milwaukeeerecreation.net.

Help Us Grow Our Community: Enjoy our updates? Help us spread the word! Invite others to sign up at hacm.org/subscribe. Let's keep building a community that's informed, inspired, and connected!

Connect with us on social media:



Click here for a [PDF](#) version of HACM HUB

The mission of the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee is to foster strong, resilient, and inclusive communities by providing a continuum of high-quality housing options that support self-sufficiency, good quality of life, and the opportunity to thrive.