

December 2020

# Resident Times

## Lorain Metropolitan Housing Authority

### **Farewell Mr. Virden; thank you for 40 great years!!**

After working for Lorain Metropolitan Housing for 40 years, Mr. Virden, is going to move on to his next journey; retirement!!

Mr. Virden was gracious enough to take the time to answer questions about his time here at LMHA and also about what the future holds for him. Here is what he had to say:

#### **1. What year did you begin working at the housing authority; who was president?**

Lorain Metropolitan Housing Authority hired me January 5, 1981 as the Supervisor of Energy Control. Ronald Reagan was president of the United States. I was assigned to develop a utility allowance system to convert the Authority family units from authority paid utilities to tenant paid utilities. I also coordinated the weatherization of LMHA units and the conversion to energy efficient boilers and low use water toilets.

#### **2. What different positions did you have while working at the housing authority? Which was your favorite?**

I have held several positions with the Authority. The ones I remember include Director of Physical Plant, Administrative Assistant to the Director, Contract Compliances, Hearing Officer, and Assistant Director. They all were favorites as each was essential to my development and to understanding of providing housing.

#### **3. What is a favorite memory that you have about working for LMHA?**

One of my favorite memories is standing with everyone, smiling, at the Oberlin LIHTC ribbon cutting. There was a feeling that we crossed the finish line as a winner.

#### **4. What have you learned from your experiences here at the housing authority?**

I learned that the work of providing housing to those in need is never done. All we can do is our part during our time.

#### **5. Are you excited about your next journey?** Life is a journey, not a destination, so always enjoy the trip. My plans are to enjoy time with my family.

#### **6. What are you going to miss most about working at LMHA?**

I have heard from many LMHA retirees that you are so busy when you retire, you do not have time to miss LMHA.

**Best wishes to you!!**



WE WILL MISS YOU

### **LMHA OFFICES ARE**

#### **CLOSED:**

**December 24, 2020**

**December 25, 2020**

**January 1, 2021**

**January 18, 2021**

### **From the Managers:**

- Live holiday trees and garland are not permitted due to the potential fire hazard.
- Portable heaters, electric heaters and faux fireplaces with heaters are prohibited.
- The cooling season ended Oct. 15, 2020. All A/C's should be removed from your windows.
- Bulk trash pick up for Leavitt/ Westview is 12/17 and 1/14.
- Residents are required to shovel their walkways to remove snow. Due to chemical safety issues, rock salt is not provided to residents.
- Management offices are open for residents to schedule appointments; walk ins are not permitted at this time. To schedule an appointment, call **440-288-1600**.
- DocuSign is a new option that you have to complete your forms. Please contact your management office with any questions.
- Please notify the management office with any email or phone number changes.

Are you or someone you know a victim of domestic violence? Contact the Genesis House at: 440-323-3400 or a [www.genesishouseshelter.org](http://www.genesishouseshelter.org) They have 24-hour phone hotline, shelter, crisis counseling, and immediate safety.

**November 21st is the deadline** to register for your Economic Impact Payment (stimulus checks) from earlier this year. The IRS is urging everyone who has not yet received their stimulus check to register as soon as possible, but no later than Nov. 21st at <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus>

### **Extension Cord Safety Tips:**

- Extension cords are meant for temporary use only.
- Do not run extension cords under rugs or furniture.
- Never plug an extension cord into another extension cord.
- Make sure extension cords are properly rated for their use, never use an indoor extension cord outdoors.
- Inspect cords for damage before use. Check for cracks and frayed sockets, loose or bare wires, and loose connections. Discard damaged extension cords immediately.
- Never tamper with your smoke detector. If an extension cord causes a fire, you want to be aware immediately so that you can be safe.
- Never use a cord that feels hot.
- Never use a three prong plug with outlets that only have two slots for the plug.

### LCCAA Partners to Bridge Digital Divide

Lorain County Community Action Agency will partner with area schools to help students bridge the digital divide and help them learn safely in their homes. LCCAA has been awarded \$50,000 from the City of Lorain's COVID Response Grant Program, funded by the CARES Act. The agency will purchase 200 internet enabled devices to distribute to schools based on enrollment and need. **If your child is in need of technology for learning at home and they attend the following school district, please contact your child's school. The school districts participating are:** *Lorain City Schools, Clearview, Horizon Science Academy of Lorain, Lorain Prep Academy, St. Peter's in Lorain, Constellation Schools: Lorain Community Schools, St. Anthony of Padua School, Spectrum Resource Center and Schools, Summit Academy School, and Lorain Bilingual Academy.*

### Join the "Joyful Together" Program

LCCAA Head Start parents are invited to participate in Ohio Guidestone's study of new playtime activities. Parents of children ages 3 months to 10 years are welcome to try new games and activities in an online group.

**Participants will receive a free gift!**

To sign up, call 440-260-8865, email [research@ohioguidestone.org](mailto:research@ohioguidestone.org) or visit [bit.ly/joyfultogether](http://bit.ly/joyfultogether).

### Black River Career Prep High School -

+22 plus program is a diploma program that offer chances to learn about business, finance, marketing, entrepreneurship, and teaches a variety of professional skills.

For more information go to:

<https://www.careerprepschool.org/blackriver/>  
Or call: 440-324-1755

### Dental Hygiene Clinic

LCCC Dental Hygiene Clinic provides high-quality dental services for the entire community. For current hours of operation or to make an appointment, call **1-800-995-5222**. These services are in no way intended to replace comprehensive dental care provided by your dentist. Preventative Services include: **health history including blood pressure screening, oral cancer screening, periodontal charting, dental charting, dental health instruction, oral prophylaxis (cleaning and polishing teeth), necessary radiographs (x-rays), referred to your dentist upon request, fluoride treatments, and dental sealants.**

COVID-19 has had an impact on the social and emotional health of our nation's children. For many, their school year was disrupted and there's uncertainty about when they return and what their return to the classroom will look like. Our youth had to adjust to online schooling in a very short period of time, the loss of social connections, participation in extra-curricular activities and rites of passage such as high school and college graduation and prom. The resources included in this Toolkit are intended to help parents, caregivers, families, and youth better understand and manage anxiety, sadness, uncertainty, and grief that comes with our new normal. Please use the link below to access the family toolkit created by MHARS:

<https://mharslc.org/familytoolkit/>

The family toolkit was done in collaboration with Mental Health, Addiction and Recovery Services Board's network of Child and Adolescent Serving Behavioral Health Agencies who are as follows: Applewood Center, Inc., Beech Brook, Bellefaire JCB, Big Brother Big Sisters of Lorain County, Firelands Counseling and Recovery Services, LCADA Way, Lorain County UMADAOP, The Nord Center, and OhioGuidestone.

**In a world of worries, we are a no worry option to help your family's emotional health. Call 440-240-7025 (during business hours or leave a message) to learn about options.**

## Connecting For Kids

Concerned about your child? Feeling alone in today's world? You are NOT alone!

Connecting for Kids provides education and support to families who have concerns about their child. Connecting for Kids serves all families with children ages birth to 12-year in Lorain County who may have a child with or without formal diagnoses. Additionally, Connecting for Kids offers educational programs, support groups, a Parent Match Program and numerous resources to help!

All Connecting for Kids programs are FREE and open to the public.

Call/Text: (440) 570-5908

Para español: (440) 907-9130

Connect with us:

Web: [connectingforkids.org/joinus](http://connectingforkids.org/joinus)

Email: [info@connectingforkids.org](mailto:info@connectingforkids.org)

### Services for New Moms

#### Cribs for Kids:

LCPH participates in the Cribs for Kids program. This program helps parents and caregivers understand the ways to keep babies safe while they sleep. For information on this program and if you are in need of a Pack 'n Play, call **440-322-6367**.

#### Mercy Resource Mothers Program:

Specially trained, certified Community Health Workers (CHW's) help answer new moms' questions. They give the support, guidance, referrals and information needed to make good choices for happy, healthy lives for mom and baby. Visit: [https://www.mercy.com/locations/specialty-locations/other-locations/mercy-health-outreach-center?utm\\_source=local-listings&utm\\_medium=organic&utm\\_content=website-link](https://www.mercy.com/locations/specialty-locations/other-locations/mercy-health-outreach-center?utm_source=local-listings&utm_medium=organic&utm_content=website-link)

### **"Save Lives, Instill Hope, and Restore Relationships"**

Health care services specializing in local and affordable outpatient care for individuals suffering with substance abuse. 1-216-270-7464.



### **Christmas Baskets-**

A Christmas Food Pantry will be the 4th Wednesday in December.

This pantry provides food baskets with meat and all the trimmings for a Christmas Dinner.

Located at: Pathways Enrichment Center: 2505 North Leavitt Rd. Lorain, OH 44052. Call **440-282-1109** for more information.