

Resident Empowerment News

Upcoming Citywide REC Meeting: February 12, 2020

Open to all residents

Want to have your voice heard? Organize with fellow residents?

JOIN THE RESIDENT EMPOWERMENT COALITION

The Resident Empowerment Coalition works to strengthen resident engagement, support organizing, and have residents inform programs, policy making, and community development. The REC fights for all BHA and Section 8 households.

Do you want to learn more about leading your local tenant organization/task force?

Gain more understanding about tenant participation funds or bylaws?

If yes, then this group is for you!

Refreshments will be provided. If you need a cab voucher to attend please call 617-988-5222.

February 12, 2020 at 10:00 A.M.
Location: Groveland Apartments Community Room

15 Mary Beatty Moore Circle

Mattapan, MA 02126

On the agenda
Census 2020 Outreach
Supporting LTO Elections and Create a Peer-to Peer Learning Network

About our REC Committees

Peer to Peer Learning Lunch Committee (next meeting: March 11 1:00 p.m. -1:40 p.m.)

This committee will plan and host regular lunch & learn opportunities for residents/resident leaders around a variety of topics of interest to the BHA resident community and LTO groups. The goal is to create a safe space for resident leaders and residents to learn from each other, collaborate, and create a supportive environment that helps everyone thrive.

Election Support Committee (<u>next meeting: March 11 1:40 - 2:20 p.m.</u>)

This committee will work on providing support and technical assistance to local tenant

organizations that have elections coming up. The Committee would help LTOs throughout their election process, act as election monitors, assist with resident outreach, help to host candidate events, etc.

REC Planning Meeting (next meeting: March 11 2:20- 3:00 p.m.)

This planning meeting is open to resident that would like to assist in coordinating REC activities (like the Citywide REC meeting). address current LTO needs, and help with outreach to the BHA resident community and partners. The meeting takes place every other month at Orchard Gardens Community Center in Roxbury.

Announcements & Resources

Reminder for our Tenant Organizations

The end of Fiscal Year 20 is coming up on April 15. If you need assistance to successfully close out the fiscal year and remain in compliance, please reach out to us.

The 3rd Quarter reports were due on **January 15, 2020**. This covers the months of October, November, and December.

Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budgets are due on March 1, 2020

The 4th Quarter reports are due on **April 15, 2020**. This covers the months of January, February, and March.

Give us a call if you would like help from our Resident Capacity Team

In addition to your reports we will need you to include with them the following **required**materials

Bank Statements (please do not wipe out any information)
Original receipts

Copies of canceled checks (if images do not appear on bank statements)

And expenditure narrative (Monthly report form here)

617-988-5222 or 617-988-5316 or email rec@bostonhousing.org (fax: 617-988-4335)

The 2020 Census is Approaching!

Are you a resident group interested in hosting a Census event at your site?

We need your help to spread the word about Census Job opportunities and the importance of having a complete count for the 2020 Census. If you'd like to host an event at your site, please reach out to us for assistance!

Contact Sahar Lawrence at 617-988-4169 or Priscilla Williams at 617-988-4105.

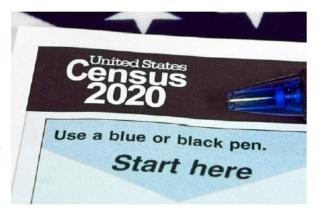
2020 CENSUS: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Census?

The US Census creates a picture of our country. It's a population count of every person living in the United States, required by the Constitution and done every 10 years.

Why is the Census important?

Census data determines the resources for community and defines our voice in government for the next 10 years. Your participation will help your family and community get their fair share of resources, services, and representation.



The 2020 Census data will determine the allocation of \$675 billion in federal funding every year to states across the United States. For Massachusetts, more than \$16 billion is affected by the census. That's money for schools, hospitals, roads, affordable housing, childcare, senior centers, public works, and other vital investments.

Census data also determine the redistricting at all levels of government:

- · Legislative districts for city councils and school committees at the municipal level;
- · State legislative districts; and
- Congressional districts.

How will I find out about the Census?

March 12-20 Your household will receive a letter from the Census Bureau with a unique

identification number that is tied to your home address.

March 16-24 Reminder letter

If you haven't responded yet:

March 26-April 3 Reminder postcard

April 8–16 Reminder letter and paper questionnaire

April 20–27 Final reminder postcard before a Census-taker visits your home

Mid-May If you have not responded yet by mid-May, a Census-taker will visit your

home to get your response in-person.





For Section 8 Residents

Are you a Section 8 Resident? Do you know your rights as a Section 8 Voucher Holder? Have questions about the application process? Do you need support with a landlord issue?

Section 8 Tenants, Inc. is a nonprofit organization, funded by Boston Housing Authority, to educate, train and protect the rights of tenants in Section 8 programs.

For more information call: 617-942-7568

Learn more

Community Resources

Click on the images for a larger version



WHEN: Saturday, March 21, 2020

TIME: 9 AM - 3 PM
WHERE: 1 Kneeland St., Boston, MA

Children 0-13 Years Old

NO Appointments Needed
Pre-Register: dental.tufts.edu/gkas
Email: givekidsasmileday@tufts.edu







Get in touch with the **Age Strong Commission** at **617-635-4366**:

Hablamos su idioma. • Nou pale lang ou. • Falamos sua língua! • 我们可以说中文



Information + Resources Información + Recursos Informação + Recursos Enfòmasyon + Resous 各种信息和相关资源



Access to Benefits: Fuel, Food, Medicare Acceso a Beneficios: Calefacción, Alimentos, Medicare Acesso a Beneficios: Aquecimento de casa, Alimentos, Medicare Aksè a Benefis: Gaz, Manje, Medicaire

申请福利补贴:燃油补贴、粮食券、医疗保险和补贴



Transportation: Free Shuttle, Taxi Coupons Transportación: Transporte Gratuito, Cupones de Taxi Transporte: Transporte Gratuito, Cupom de Táxi Transpò: Otobis Gratis, Koupon pou Taxi

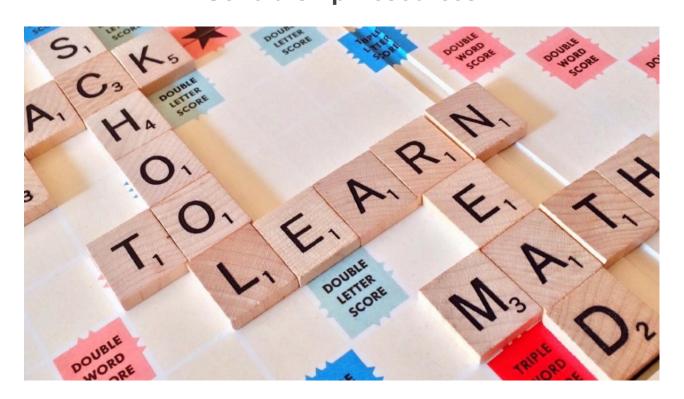
交通协助:免费穿梭巴士, 出租车优惠券



City of Boston Age Strong Commission Mayor Martin J. Walsh



Scholarship Resources



Click here for a list of higher education funding opportunities shared by the City of Boston.

Here are a few:

Internal: Northeastern University

Boston Housing Authority Scholarship - College of Professional Studies Program

Throughout the year, BHA Public Housing residents have the opportunity to apply to Northeastern University's College of Professional Studies which offers professionally oriented Bachelor's completion **programs** in flexible course formats, including online, and evenings. Students with confirmation of BHA residence have the opportunity to start classes in the Fall, Spring, or Summer terms. Please reach out to Evan Grenier, Director of

Undergraduate Admissions for the College of Professional Studies, by **email** with any questions.

How do I apply?

To apply, click on **this link** and complete the on-line application. Once your application, has been received by Northeastern, staff will contact Sahar Lawrence by **email** to confirm BHA tenancy. NOTE: This scholarship only applies to Bachelor's degree programs offered through the College of Professional Studies.

External: Boston College Allston Brighton Scholarship Full tuition

Automatically considered with admission

Resident of Allston/Brighton for 4 or more years and have an institutionally determined need greater than \$10,000 to be considered.

Any remaining scholarships are given to Boston residents.

External: Any College or University
Madison Park Development Corporation
Scholarship Varies (typically \$1,000 - \$5,000 per year for 4 years)

To be decided, mid-June

Must have zip code of 02119, 02120, or 02121. Must plan on enrolling in a two-year or four-year college in the fall. Commitment to community service.

CCECR What is an LTO? REC S8TI

Boston Housing Authority