

HOUSING HEADLINES

A NEWSLETTER FOR RESIDENTS AND FRIENDS OF THE BETHLEHEM HOUSING AUTHORITY

IN THE
SUMMER 2026
ISSUE

- Executive Director's News
- Tenant Selection Topic
- Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Snapsho
- Big Or Small, We Do It All
- Welcome Aboard!
- Resident Recognition
- Maintenance Memos
- Highrise Highlights
- New Office Hours
- Give Us A Call For Your Housing Needs!
- FDO In A Flash!
- Employee Recognition
- Administrators and Commissioners
- Important Dates
- Important Phone Numbers



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Bethlehem, PA 18018
610-865-8300
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TDD 610-865-8333

www.bethlehemhousing.org

 BHA is now on Facebook.
Look for us and like us!

Dear Residents

AS WE MOVE INTO THE SUMMER SEASON, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our residents for continuing to make our communities places we are proud to call home. Your cooperation, patience, and commitment to being good neighbors are greatly appreciated by the staff and administration of the Bethlehem Housing Authority.

Our goal remains to provide safe, clean, and affordable housing while maintaining the quality of life throughout all of our developments. Over the coming months, you may notice ongoing maintenance work, inspections, landscaping improvements, and other projects designed to improve our properties and services. We ask for your continued cooperation as these efforts are completed.

Please remember the importance of reporting maintenance issues promptly, following community guidelines, and helping to keep common areas clean and safe for everyone. Working together allows us to better serve all residents and maintain the standards our communities deserve.

I also encourage residents to stay in communication with their property management staff regarding any concerns, questions, or changes in household information. Open communication helps us respond more efficiently and continue improving resident services.

On behalf of the Bethlehem Housing Authority Board of Commissioners and staff, thank you for being valued members of our community. We remain committed to serving you with professionalism, respect, and dedication.

Sincerely,
John S. Ritter, Executive Director
Bethlehem Housing Authority

Resident Council Updates

ATTENTION HIGH-RISE RESIDENTS! Keep an eye on your building's bulletin boards for our monthly Resident Council activities. We have an exciting lineup of events, including:

- Monthly council meetings
- Community parties
- Grocery bingo
- Painting classes
- And much more



Come out, join the fun, and enjoy great fellowship with your neighbors!

Dear Residents, Staff, Community Partners, and Friends

We would like to thank everyone who continues to support our communities and residents throughout the year. The past several months has brought many challenges and accomplishments, and we are proud of the teamwork and dedication shown by our staff, residents, local organizations, and volunteers.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT & RESIDENT ASSISTANCE

Recently, several families were displaced due to the sinkhole emergency affecting our community. We are extremely grateful for the overwhelming support that came from staff, local businesses, partner agencies, and community members who donated food, clothing, furniture, and personal items to help those families during a difficult time.

The BHA team truly stepped up and demonstrated compassion, professionalism, and dedication. Thank you to everyone who gave their time, donations, and support to help neighbors in need.

– John Ritter

Tenant Selection Topic ■ Cindy Toledo

SUMMER GREETINGS FROM THE TENANT SELECTION DEPARTMENT! We hope this season finds you well and enjoying the warm weather. As always, our goal is to keep you informed and supported. Please read the important updates below regarding the transfer waitlist process.

Dear Tenants, please note that we are no longer able to provide waitlist numbers or status updates by phone. If you are on the transfer waiting list, we will contact you when your name is selected and your transfer request is ready for review, based on unit availability.

While your name is on the transfer waitlist, please note that transfer dates are based on your request date, and tenants cannot move ahead on the list. Additionally, if you are requesting a specific type of unit, you will need to wait until that unit becomes available. We cannot expedite or skip ahead in the waitlist. If a change is needed for your transfer request, please contact your leasing office.

A letter and an email were sent with instructions for accessing your online application, along with your portal ID number.

Please use your Rent Café tenant account to review your application or update your contact information, household details, or other essential information. If you require reasonable accommodation assistance, please call **610-865-8300** or TDD (hearing impaired) at **610-865-8333**. You may also visit us at housing.bethlehemhousing.org or scan the QR code.



Thank you for your patience and understanding. Have a wonderful and safe summer.

Cindy Toledo, Tenant Selection Manager

Dedicated to serving my community with integrity, ensuring access and fair treatment for all applicants, and guided by HUD regulations in my commitment to excellence.

Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Snapshot ■ Gwendolyn Flores

Back in June 2022, I started my journey at BHA with a strong desire to serve our community.

Since day one, I have carried a powerful quote by Helen Keller with me:

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”

These words echoed loudly in my heart when BHA discovered soil erosion in the Northeast Development area. Families had to be moved out of their homes quickly to ensure their safety, which was an incredibly difficult situation.

I am profoundly grateful to the BHA Staff, our CS and FSS participants, the Salvation Army, Central Assembly of God, the Litzenberger Resident Council, CJ from Mattress Firm, and every person that with compassion and rapid support actions to the families said: “together we can do so much.”

Actions of love that will never be forgotten. Together, we can do so much more!

FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY (FSS) PROGRAM

Do you have big goals for your future? Whether you want to go back to school, find a new job, switch careers, save for college, or buy your own home, we are here to help! The Family Self-Sufficiency Program currently has 10 openings. We would love to mentor you and help you reach your dreams. Contact the FSS Department today for more information at **610-419-0368** or email us at gflores@betha.com!

Big Or Small, We Do It All (BHA Events) ■ Mia Reyes



FAREWELL/HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

On behalf of the Bethlehem Housing Authority, we extend our deepest gratitude to Miriam Maldonado for an extraordinary 27 years of dedicated service. As you embark on this new chapter of your life, we hope that as you transition into retirement, you find joy in new opportunities, adventures, and the time to pursue new or old passions. Congratulations on a well-deserved retirement, Miriam! You will be greatly missed, and we wish you all the best in your future endeavors.



HEALTH & SAFETY RESOURCE FAIR (MARVINE ELEMENTARY)

BHA and Northside Alive team up in participating in the Marvine Elementary School's Health & Safety Resource Fair. We provided housing information and gave away fun swag bags to the Marvine family attendees. Events like this are essential to strengthening our community ties and commitment to ensuring a better future for the community.

ANNUAL CLEAN UP DAY



What better way to welcome in spring than a thorough office cleaning? We got to dust off, wipe down, and sort through old things to make BHA feel brand new and refreshed! And we got to sport our very new BHA t-shirts!

BHA 1ST SEMIANNUAL THRIFT STORE



The Bethlehem Housing Authority is excited to announce our first ever semiannual Thrift Store. This will be happening soon in the summer and fall months at the First Tee Building. All the items in the store are donated from

BHA staff members and friends from the City of Bethlehem. What you will find in our store ranges from clothing to household items. With this new resource added to our hub, it can continue to strengthen our community and be a stable place to help those in need. Be on the lookout for opening dates!

FATHER'S DAY COOKOUT AT THE HIGHRISES!

Residents from Bartholomew, Monocacy, Bodder, and Litzenberger gathered to enjoy the sunshine and a classic hot dog, celebrating the joys of summer and Father's Day.



Welcome Aboard!



Sara Rodriguez

WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE NEW MEMBERS OF THE BHA TEAM!

Sara Rodriguez, CSS – Office Clerk

Noel Marte, CSS – Manager

David Rossetti, CSS – Housing Inspector

CELINETTE SEVERINO, FDO – PROPERTY MANAGER



Dear Residents,

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is Celinette Severino, and I am pleased to introduce myself as the new Property Manager at FDO for the BHA. I am excited to join the community and look forward to working with each of you to help maintain a safe, respectful, and welcoming place to live.

My goal is to build positive relationships with residents while ensuring that the property is managed efficiently and professionally. I believe that open communication and mutual respect are essential to creating a strong community, and I encourage residents to reach out with questions, concerns, or suggestions.

Over the coming weeks, I will be taking time to become familiar with the property and meet as many residents as possible. I am committed to addressing maintenance concerns promptly, supporting community standards, and working collaboratively to improve the overall living experience for everyone.

The management office is here to assist you. Please do not hesitate to contact us during office hours for any housing-related needs or concerns.

Thank you for welcoming me to the FDO community. I look forward to serving you and working together to make this a positive environment for all residents.

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE Cindy Toledo's promotion to Manager of the Tenant Selection Department. Having been with the agency for many years, she brings valuable experience and dedication. We are truly grateful to have her in this role. Her hardworking nature willingness to assist everyone, team spirit, cheerful attitude, and delightful personality make her a treasured member of our team. We look forward to her continued contributions.



Resident Recognition

Eric Gonzalez, A BHA Highrise resident, Celebrates Mother's Day with a thoughtful and creative flare by making his own greeting card for his sister.

MAINTENANCE MEMOS

■ Charles Jablonski

RESIDENT SHOUT OUT!

Maintenance would like to thank all tenants for helping and cleaning up around their apartments this Spring. With continued support from BHA tenants we can all make our properties safer and cleaner for a better living environment.

Please remember large trash must be curbside the night before trash pickup.

Thanks again and have a safe summer.

HIGHRISE HIGHLIGHTS

■ Zulma Rodriguez

EMERGENCY EVACUATION

Are you wheelchair bound? Do you use oxygen? In the event of a fire can you leave your apartment? Many times, we don't know who can't leave their apartments in the event of an emergency. If at night, the Fire Department certainly doesn't know. Therefore, call your management office now and let us know so we can put this in in our file and send it to the Police and Fire Department.

If you are a neighbor of someone that you think would need assistance in the event of a disaster, call and let us know and we'll check it out. We care about the safety of residents!

Note: Candles can be dangerous!

Yes, they look nice and smell nice, but they can be extremely dangerous. Candles are the leading cause of house fires.

Safety is Teamwork!

NEW OFFICE HOURS/HORARIO DE ATENCION AL PUBLICO

Monday/Lunes:
1-4 p.m.

Tuesday/Martes:
Closed/Cerrado

Wednesday/Miercoles:
8:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

Thursday/Jueves:
Closed/Cerrado

Friday/Vienes:
1 p.m.-4 p.m.

**GIVE US A CALL FOR ANY & ALL HOUSING NEEDS!
¡LLÁMENOS PARA SUS NECESIDADES DE VIVIENDA!**

Celinette Severino 610-419-9612 cseverino@betha.com	Property Manager	All Developments
Jeanette Martinez 610-419-9483 martinezj@betha.com	Asst. Property Manager	Marvine, Fairmount & Bayard Developments
Johayra Quintela 610-419-9615 jquintela@betha.com	Asst. Property Manager	Pfeifle, Pembroke, Parkridge & Lynfield Developments
Shiela Andrews 610-419-3531 sandrews@betha.com	Clerk Typist II	Marvine Development: Marvine St. (even #'s 1202-1312), Eastwood Rd., Howard St., Lebanon St. (1224-1242), Wellington Rd. & Woodbine St. Pembroke: Marvine St. (odd #'s only 1107-1315) & Pfeifle Developments
Aileen Rosado 610-419-3050 arosado@betha.com	Clerk Typist II	Parkridge & Fairmount Developmentt
Marie Rivera 610-419-3545 mriviera@betha.com	Clerk Typist II	Lynfield Development (I, II, III))
Sandra Navedo 610-419-3532 snavedo@betha.com	Clerk Typist II	Bayard Development Marvine Development: Fritz Dr. (1214-1411), Garfield St., Randolph Road Desarrollo de Bayard Desarrollo de Marvine: Fritz Dr. (1214-1411), Garfield St., Randolph Road
Veronica Rodriguez 610-419-9605 vrodriguez@betha.com	Clerk Typist II	Pembroke & Pfeifle Developments: Dover Lane, Essex Ct., Flower Dr., Fritz Dr. (1102-1166,) Gordon Ct., Mansfield Ct., Merriman Ct., Marvine St. (odd #'s 1107-1313,) Pembroke Road

FDO In A Flash

Reminder to Residents: As stated in the lease agreement, inflatable bounces houses/bouncers and trampolines are prohibited on the property. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in helping maintain a safe community and ask that all residents comply with this lease requirement.

BHA Correspondence: We encourage all residents to respond to all BHA correspondence, especially requests for required information. Please ensure that all requested documents and information are submitted within the specified timeframe. Failure to comply may result in the issuance of a Lease Termination Notice. Additionally, all residents should have attended their lease orientation session and signed the updated BHA Lease Agreement. If you have not yet completed your lease orientation, please contact the management office as soon as possible.

Celebrating 39 Years of Service: Barry Doster

THANK YOU FOR 39 INCREDIBLE YEARS OF DEDICATION TO THE BETHLEHEM HOUSING AUTHORITY.



The anniversary this milestone represents more than just time spent on the job. It represents thousands of homes made safer, countless problems solved, and a community deeply impacted by your hard work. As a vital part of our maintenance department, your reliability, expertise, and willingness to help have left an incredible mark on both your colleagues and the residents we serve.

Thirty-nine years of service is a rare and beautiful achievement. We are profoundly grateful for your loyalty, your resilience, and the positive energy you bring to work every day.

Congratulations on this amazing milestone, Barry! We honor you today and celebrate the legacy you continue to build.

With deepest gratitude and respect,
The Bethlehem Housing Authority Team



645 Main Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018-3899

PSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
LEHIGH VALLEY PA
PERMIT #121



ADMINISTRATION

John Ritter
Executive Director

Diana Moreno
*Executive Secretary/
HR Manager*

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

J. Marc Rittle, *Chairperson*

Rogelio Ortiz
*Vice-Chairperson/Resident
Commissioner*

Iris Linares, *Commissioner*

Rachel Leon, *Commissioner*



UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug. 10Board Meeting
4 p.m., Monocacy Tower

Sept. 7Labor Day-Offices Closed

Sept. 14.....Board Meeting
4 p.m., Monocacy Tower

Oct.12.....Board Meeting
4 p.m., Monocacy Tower

Nov. 9Board Meeting
4 p.m., Monocacy Tower

Nov. 26.....Thanksgiving – Office Closed

Nov.27Office Closed

Dec.r 14.....Board Meeting
4 p.m., Monocacy Tower

Dec. 25Christmas Day – Office Closed

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Central Office **610-865-8300**

Central Highrise Operations Office (CHOO); Litzenberger,
Bodder, Bartholomew and Monocacy **610-865-8352** OR **610-865-8353**

Family Development Office (FDO) Pembroke, Marvine,
Fairmount, Bayard, Pfeifle, Parkridge, Lynfield **610-865-8343**

Maintenance **610-865-8319**

Community Service **610-865-8323**

FSS **610-419-0368**