

Choice Neighborhoods

RESIDENT NEWSLETTER

February 2026

Black History.

WE HAVE A STORY TO TELL!



Falling in Love with BLACK History!

Did you know:

Jerry Lawson (1976): Invented the video game cartridge, allowing players to switch and play different games on one system.

Madam C.J. Walker (by 1916): Became the first self-made female millionaire in the U.S., building a hair-care empire and uplifting Black communities.

CKG Management Office - RECERTIFICATION

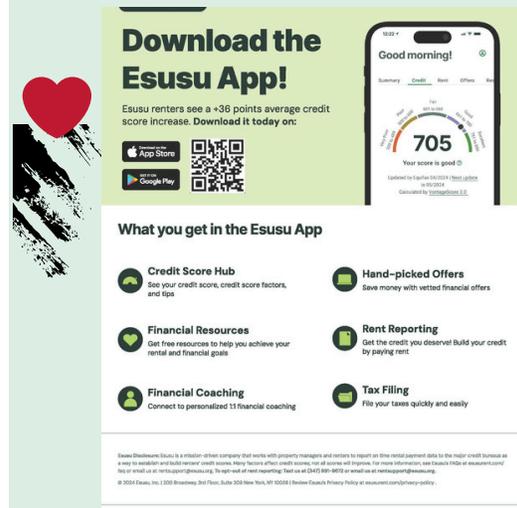
Residents who are within 30-days of their recertification date, make sure you submit all documents or contact the office to verify your status. You may visit during office hours or contact Amber at 313-965-5650 (CKG) or 313-650-6850 (LF).

Office hours: 8AM - 5PM - Mon, Wed and Fri
Office is close during lunch hour - 12-1pm

Mark Your Calendars

- 1) **First Fridays - Feb. 6th** hosted by IMS @ CKG & Left Field - 9am-12pm - *Have questions about relocation, recertification, repairs...ask the experts*
- 2) **Gleaners Food Distribution - Feb. 9th** @ CKG - 1:30-2:30pm in front of the Management Office - *Nutritious food items while supplies last*
- 3) **Women Empowerment Series - Feb. 11th** @ Left Field - 4:30-6pm. *Join the conversation...New Year, New You, New Mindset*
- 4) **Financial Fade Series - Feb. 14th** @ The Village Beauty and Barber Salon - 12-2pm @ 8347 E. Jefferson
- 5) **Seniors of CNI Meet Up - Feb. 18th** - 1-2pm @ Left Field - *Join us to celebrate Black History Month-Black Legacy*
- 6) **Project Graduation - Black History Glow Up - Feb. 18th** - 4-5:30 pm @ Left Field - *INVITING ALL YOUTH IN GRADES 7-12TH.*
- 7) **Focus Hope Senior Distribution - Feb. 24th** - 1-4pm - @ CKG
- 8) **Tenant Council Meeting - Feb. 24th** - 4-5:30 pm @ Left Field

DID YOU KNOW THAT PAYING YOUR RENT ON TIME INCREASES YOUR CREDIT SCORE? DOWNLOAD THE ESUSU APP TODAY & WATCH OUR CREDIT SCORE GROW



Download the Esusu App!

Esusu renters see a +36 points average credit score increase. Download it today on:

Available on the App Store and Google Play.

What you get in the Esusu App

- Credit Score Hub**: See your credit score, credit score factors, and tips
- Hand-picked Offers**: Save money with vetted financial offers
- Financial Resources**: Get free resources to help you achieve your rental and financial goals
- Rent Reporting**: Get the credit you deserve! Build your credit by paying rent
- Financial Coaching**: Connect to personalized 1:1 financial coaching
- Tax Filing**: File your taxes quickly and easily

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Achieve Your Financial Goals With SMART Budgeting!

Setting a budget and developing a spending plan is a great way to reduce uncertainty and ease future financial stress. To help you start budgeting and take control of your finances, MSUFCU offers a budgeting tool designed to help you get started and stay on track toward financial success!

What are SMART goals?

- **Specific:** Clearly define your goal.
- **Measurable:** Track your progress with clear objectives.
- **Achievable:** Set realistic goals.
- **Relevant:** Ensure your goal aligns with your values.
- **Time-bound:** Set a deadline.

Budgeting helps you:

- Manage your money effectively.
- Save for future goals and unexpected expenses.
- Avoid unnecessary debt.
- Gain financial peace of mind.

SAMPLE MONTHLY BUDGET

CATEGORY	PLANNED AMOUNT	ACTUAL AMOUNT
Income:	\$ 3,142.00	\$ 3,142.00
Expenses:	\$ 2,910.00	\$ 2,951.79
Housing	\$ 1,160.00	\$ 1,160.00
Utilities	\$ 250.00	\$ 213.42
Groceries	\$ 400.00	\$ 432.16
Transportation	\$ 200.00	\$ 162.78
Savings	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Entertainment	\$ 200.00	\$ 278.34
Miscellaneous	\$ 200.00	\$ 205.09
Total Income - Total Expenses =	\$ 232.00	\$ 190.21

Tips for successful budgeting:

1. **Track Your Spending:** Keep an eye on where your money is going.
2. **Adjust as Needed:** Be flexible and adjust your budget as your financial situation changes. Review it weekly to see where you're overspending and undersaving.
3. **Stay Committed:** Consistency is key to achieving your financial goals.



Ready to learn more?

Scan the QR code to attend a virtual seminar session, or listen to our Wallet Watch Podcast, and see our other programs for more financial tips. msufcu.org/FinEd

- **Financial Freedom Starts With a Plan. Small Steps. Strong Finances.**
 - **From Paycheck to Purpose.**
 - **Turning Dollars Into Decisions.**
 - **Your Goals Deserve a Budget.**
- Need help call Tracey Rucker
313-484-4816**



WELCOME

NORTH CORKTOWN RESIDENTS



The Preserve On Ash is OPEN!



To learn more or to refer someone call 313.635.4473



United Community Housing Coalition

Bye-Bye Couch Potato!

Try these indoor activities to stay fit!

- **Dancing**
- **Active housework (vacuuming and sweeping)**
- **Mall walking**
- **Bowling**
- **Roller skating**
- **Yoga or other fun group classes at your local gym, studio or community center**
- **Stair climbing**



LET'S GO... YOU GOT THIS!!!!!!

Resident Resources

Are you going through more food than normal these days?



Food Distribution is held monthly on the second Monday of the month in front of the Management Office from 1:30-2:30 pm.

Next Distribution February 9th

Thank You!



January Tenant Council Meeting Recap!



United Community Housing Coalition hosted the tenant council meeting at Left Field on Tuesday, January 27th from 4:00 – 5:30 pm. The event was held in the community room on the first floor. All the residents from Left Field were invited.

Tenant Organizers with UCHC spoke with residents to discuss the time commitment that goes into planning a tenant meeting. One tenant volunteered to take the lead to help plan a tenant meeting for February. UCHC will support tenants as much as needed. UCHC wants to give residents the tools and skills so that they can one day operate a tenant council independently. If anyone is interested in learning more, please reach out to UCHC to participate in the planning.

Alexis Alexander also spoke to residents to get any feedback about any concern about the Corktown neighborhood. The representatives at HUD want to hear what residents are experiencing and if there are any challenges they want to speak on. Feel free to contact Alexis if you have something to share.

Thank you to everyone who attended. UCHC tenant organizers, City, and TCB staff can be contacted at:

Pablo Marcos (313) 572-1401 jmarcos@uchcdetroit.org
Theresa Mitchell (313) 635-4554 Theresa.mitchell@tcbinc.org
Alexis Alexander Alexis.Alexander@detroitmi.gov

Make History & Fall In Love With Goal Setting!



Tracey Rucker
313.484.4816



Melinda Smith
313.484.4702

Family Success Plans Are Happening Now! Sign Up TODAY!

Are you ready to set goals for you and your family or update your current ones? If so, the time is NOW to reach out to the Community Life Service Coordinators, Melinda Smith & Tracey Rucker! They are ready to help you get connected to the tools and resources to CRUSH the GOALS you set for you & your family.

Sign up TODAY to get CONNECTED!

Workforce Development - Next Practices!

Job seeking? Get hired early in the year! Here are some “Next Practices” to get you to the next level.

Network Actively - Tell your family, friends, neighbors, people in the grocery line...SOMEONE knows someone who’s hiring. Job Fairs! Talk to Recruiters AND Candidates like you for leads. Volunteer! This is an overlooked way to network. Staff will see your work ethic and inform you of openings in their company.

Apply Strategically - Look for companies that have multiple job openings. They need people sooner than those with one or two and usually hire more quickly. Apply for each position separately. Highlight your specific skill on each application.

Learn a New Skill - Certificates stand out. Earn free online from Google AI, Verizon, LinkedIn, or other sources. Some are fast. AI is emerging, so consider. We fear things when we don’t understand. Knowledge is power and the power is in the doing! Even “Intro” certs work. Go online or contact the SER Metro Team.

Education and Resource Support

Training and Support Services

Malikia McGee - 313.962.9675 x 1699 or 313.945.5200 x 4341
mmcgee@detroitatwork.com

Job Placement

Gloria Messenger - 313.377.1067
gmessage@detroitatwork.com



CKG Community Resources



Accounting Aid Society
LaSed Senior Center
Tax Season starts January 20th Please call ahead to make your appointment
7150 Vernor Highway
Detroit, MI 48209
313-556-1920 (Appt is required)

Open Tuesday – Saturday 9am- 5pm
ONLY the following Mondays will be available:
February 2nd
February 9th
February 16th
February 23rd
March 30th
April 6
April 13th



2026 WAYNE METRO WORKSHOPS




ALL 2026 WORKSHOP DATES:

HOMEBUYER CLUB: 10:00AM-2:00PM
1/21, 2/18, 3/18, 4/22, 5/20, 6/17, 7/22, 8/19, 9/16, 10/21, 11/18

FOUNDATIONS OF WEALTH: 2:00PM-4:00PM
1/20, 2/17, 3/17, 4/21, 5/19, 6/16, 7/21, 8/18, 9/15, 10/20, 11/17

RENTING RIGHT: 10:00AM-12:00PM
1/20, 2/17, 3/17, 4/21, 5/19, 6/16, 7/21, 8/18, 9/15, 10/20, 11/17

MAINTAINING THE DREAM/KEEP MY HOME: 10:00AM-1:00PM
1/22, 3/19, 5/21, 7/23, 9/17, 11/19




REGISTER AT WAYNEMETRO.ORG/HOUSING/
THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS!




THE FINANCIAL FADE

A CUT & CONVO

Men & Money
Fade into Financial Freedom...

FREE EVENT!

Fade into it:
Sat, Feb 14, 2026
12:00 pm
8347 Jefferson Ave
Detroit, MI 48214

Brought to you by:
THE COMMUNITY BUILDERS
GreenPath
msufcu

Refreshments & Street Parking

Contact Us
313.635.4401
theresa.mitchell@TCBINC.ORG



Goal Getter Cash Flow The Art of Saving Credit Check Rent or Own Access



GED Classes Available

Semester begins:
January 20, 2026

Open registration at the Curtis L. Ivery Downtown Campus (1001 W. Fort St., Detroit, MI 48226) starting January 5, 2026, Monday–Thursday, 9 a.m.–2 p.m., in Room 242.

Photo ID and an assessment are required. The entire process takes approximately 2 hours.

The campus is closed for the holidays and will reopen on January 5, 2026. For more information, call: 313-496-2731, Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.



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