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# Geauga Metropolitan Housing

## News Release

Welcome all of our new and current residents! I hope you find our newsletters useful and full of information. You will be receiving notice of the proposed changes to the ACOP/ADMIN, utility schedule, Flat Rent and 5 year action plan within the upcoming week.

### Changes to Flat Rent

Effective 1/1/2020, per GMHA's ACOP and in accordance with HUD guidelines, GMHA has completed the review of our Flat Rents as they relate to local rents and the HUD Published Fair Market rents for 2020.

New Flat Rents are as follow:

- 1 bedroom - \$590 per month
- 2 bedroom - \$730 per month
- 3 bedroom - \$955 per month
- 4 bedroom - \$1000 per month



These rates will be applied at your next Annual.

### HCV / Section 8 Program Waiting List

Beginning MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2019 through FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2019 Geauga Metropolitan Housing Authority will be taking applications for the HCV Program (Section 8) Waiting List by mail only. Envelopes must be postmarked between November 4th and November 15th. Applications will not be accepted by fax or in person. Applications are available on the website at [www.geaugamha.org](http://www.geaugamha.org), or in the foyer at the office of GMHA, 385 Center Street, Chardon, Ohio, 44024. Copies of Photo I.D.'s and Social Security Cards must be provided with the application.

### 2020 Public Housing Authorities Directors Scholarship (PHADA )

There is one \$7,000 and two \$5,000 scholarships available for high school seniors living in public housing or receiving assistance through the Section 8/ HCV program! Please see your Housing Manager or find the application at [geaugamha.org](http://geaugamha.org). GMHA Staff must submit the applications.

In order for GMHA to submit the application to PHADA by their deadline, all applications must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 16, 2020 to:

Geauga Metropolitan Housing Authority  
385 Center Street - Office  
Chardon, OH 44024

Per their request - DO NOT FOLD OR STAPLE THE APPLICATION AND REQUESTED DOCUMENTS.



When the geese are flying south  
And the sky is grey, my dears,  
Close your eyes and lift your nose;  
Listen with your careful ears.

Feel the winter coming on;  
Hear it in the crackling trees;  
Note the crisp, quivering wind  
Sharply snapping at their leaves.

Source: "Snow Bird" (aka "Aid of the Dawn")  
By Barbara Vance at SuzieB.com

## Loud Music and Noise



As it gets colder outside we tend to spend more time inside our apartments. Please remember the bass on your TV or radio travels. Please be considerate of our neighbors and keep the noise down.

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## Human Trafficking Happens Here

Did you know that Cleveland is a major hub for human trafficking? Human trafficking is the means by which people of all genders, ages, races and cultures are bought and sold for free labor and sexual acts. Those most at risk are women, children, teens, homeless individuals, immigrants, and children in foster care. Sometimes people do not realize that they are a victim of human trafficking. In other cases, victims cannot reach help or are afraid to ask for help.

Put simply, it is a form of slavery. You can help victims of human trafficking just by paying attention.

Some common signs of human trafficking include: marks of physical abuse; possession of many hotel keys; an identical home and work address; working long hours without getting paid; and frequently getting new and expensive clothing, jewelry, hairdos, or polished nails that the individual cannot afford. If you suspect a person is a victim of human trafficking, call the police. Do not try to deal with it yourself.

Human trafficking is illegal. If the police arrest someone for trafficking, a prosecutor may charge that person and a court may convict him or her of a crime. The victim has the right to participate in the criminal case and may be required to testify as a witness.

Victims of human trafficking may need multiple kinds of help. Victims that are related to their traffickers may need help with a divorce, child custody, or guardianship. The victim may also need help getting a protection order. Human trafficking violates many employment laws; victims may have wage claims or discrimination cases based on the trafficking. Trafficking survivors may need help with public benefits and housing. Lastly, some victims are charged with crimes, such as prostitution, which they can usually expunge.

Many organizations in the Cleveland area help victims of human trafficking. If you are worried that you or someone you know is being trafficked, call for help.

### Human Trafficking Resources in Cleveland

Cleveland Rape Crisis Center - 855-431-STAR

Cuyahoga County Regional Human Trafficking Task Force - 216-443-6085

Renee Jones Empowerment Center - 216-651-9601

*Credits to Legal Aid Society of Cleveland for this article.*



## Lake Geauga Recovery Center

### Tobacco Cessation

Lake –Gaugua Recovery Centers Ambulatory DetoxSmokers can and do quit smoking, In fact, today there are more former smokers than current smokers. Quitting smoking greatly reduces the risk of developing smoking-related diseases and, for those who struggle with the use of other drugs, quitting tobacco products is found to decrease the risk of relapse. Lake –Gaugua Recovery Centers offers assistance to help those who want to quit their use of tobacco products.

### Tobacco Cessation Services

Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers offers one-on-one tobacco cessation counseling services with independently licensed therapists. Interested individuals may visit any Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers' Outpatient office in order to complete an intake and begin the process. Licensed therapists will meet with the individual, complete an intake that includes assessment of individual needs and readiness to engage in treatment services. Individuals will then work with their therapist to develop a personalized plan, link with appropriate resources and supports, and coordinate Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) with the individual's insurance company (as needed). If you would like more information about our tobacco cessation services, or to schedule an appointment with Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers, please contact us at (440) 255-0678 or info@lgrc.us Credits to Lake Geauga Recovery Center



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### Rent Reminder

Please remember that rent is always due on the 1st calendar day of each month. On the 6th day a late fee of \$25.00 is added to your account. Also, do not forget to put your name or apartment number on the check or money order.

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### Holiday Safety Tips

- Do not overload your circuit breakers during the holidays with your decorations.
- Do not leave decorations or lights turned on while you are away.
- Never leave a candle unattended while you are at work or away.

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### Upcoming Holidays and Special Days GMHA will be closed these days.

December 25, 2019	Christmas Day	Wednesday
January 1, 2020	New Years Day	Tuesday
January 21, 2020	Martin Luther King Day	Monday
February 18, 2020	Presidents Day	Monday



# December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>Rent Due</i>	2	3	4 <i>Wear Brown Shoes Day</i>	5	6 <i>Late Fee Applied</i>	7 <i>Letter Writing Day</i>
8 <i>Brownie Day</i>	9	10	11	12	13 <i>Ice Cream Day</i>	14
15	16 <i>Chocolate Covered Anthing Day</i>	17	18	19	20 <i>Go Caroling Day</i>	21
22 <i>First Day of Winter</i>	23	24	25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	26	27	28
29	30 <i>Bacon Day</i>	31 <i>New Years Eve</i>				



**Gauga**  
Metropolitan Housing Authority  
Your key to affordable housing in Geauga County.

385 Center Street  
Chardon, OH 44024