It is with many mixed emotions that I write my last AMHA newsletter message. In mid-January I informed our Board of Trustees and employees of my intention to retire in June 2018. The board is conducting a national search process for my replacement and my actual departure date will depend upon successful completion of that process.

I leave with much gratitude for the support I have received over the past 25 years from our board, employees, our many community partners and our residents.

In many ways, I end my career here with similar thoughts that I had in 1993. At that time there was a shortage of funding for housing programs and uncertainty as to the future of public housing under a newly elected President. Now looking back, the early to mid 1990’s were the high water mark for federal support of affordable housing programs.

Today we continue to face immense challenges of not enough affordable housing and an absence of support from Washington. I firmly believe that the mission and purpose for public housing authorities remains vital for a healthy community. I am deeply appreciative of what we have accomplished with your support. READ MORE AT akronhousing.org/tony

Chronic illness, mobility challenges, and feelings of isolation are concerns among many older adults. University of Akron (UA) students are helping to address some of these needs for residents by providing programming that includes education, exercise, and healthy eating demonstrations.

It is all done through the Wellness Wednesdays, a student-led experience aimed at boosting the well-being of communities with health disparities. Students in UA’s College of Health Professions connect with residents living in public housing sites each Wednesday to discuss a health topic based on the interest of the residents.

LEARN MORE AT akronhousing.org/wellnesswednesday

In April, AMHA staff will again participate in National Rebuilding Day sponsored by Rebuilding Together Northeast Ohio. The goal of Rebuilding Day is to improve the quality of life of homeowners who are elderly or disabled so they may continue to live independently. To reach this goal, AMHA staff donated $880 through Casual Dress Fridays and will also provide additional supplies and volunteer time to complete home repairs. Staff across departments enjoy coming together annually to build a spirit of community amongst themselves and with the local homeowner they are assisting.

LEARN MORE AT akronhousing.org/rebuilding
Waiting List Information

AMHA has over 25,000 households on our waiting lists. Wait times vary greatly depending on program type and vacancy rates. The chart below shows the average anticipated wait from initial application to an offer of housing. These times are calculated with the assumption that an applicant household has at least 8 preference points (Homeless/Rent Burdened and Resident preferences).

Learn more at akronhousing.org

Average Applicant Wait Times

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Months</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing Choice Voucher Program</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Public Housing</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Public Housing</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assisted Housing Portfolio</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When is the last time you visited the Summit Lake Neighborhood? Not only are there amazing transformations happening in this beautiful neighborhood, but lives are being changed at the Reach Opportunity Center! With the assistance of our collaborative partners, we are able to ensure that the children and families of the Summit Lake Neighborhood are empowered to achieve their aspirations through lifelong learning. Thank you to our program partners:

Akron Public Schools
Akron Summit Community Action
Akron Summit County Public Library
Child Guidance & Family Solutions
County of Summit Dept. of Job & Family Services
Project Learn of Summit County
Students with a Goal
Summit Metro Parks

Email Director@akronhousing.org to sign up for our e-newsletter.

AMHA Board of Directors

Anthony W. O'Leary, Executive Director
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100 West Cedar Street  | Akron, OH 44307
330.762.9631  | M-F 8am - 4:30pm

akronhousing.org