

Community Service Requirement

What is it?

The Public Housing Reform Act requires every adult resident of public housing to contribute **eight (8) hours** of community service (not including political activities) each month, or participate in an economic self-sufficiency program for eight hours each month, except those exempted under Section 12(c) of the Act.

Who is exempt?

Public Housing tenants exempt from the community service and self-sufficiency requirement are those:

- A. 62 or older
- B. Blind or disabled (as defined under 216(i)(1) or 1614 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 416(i)(1); 1382c) and who certify that because of this disability they are unable to comply with the service provisions; or primary caretakers of such individuals.
- C. Engaged in work activities for a minimum of 30 hours per week as defined in section 407(d) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 607(d), specified below:
 - i. Unsubsidized employment;
 - ii. Subsidized private-sector employment;
 - iii. Subsidized public-sector employment;
 - iv. Work experience (including work associated with the Refurbishing of publicly assisted housing) if sufficient private sector employment is not available;
 - v. On-the-job-training;
 - vi. Job-search and job-readiness assistance;
 - vii. Community service programs;
 - viii. Vocational educational training (not to exceed 12 months with respect to any individual);
 - ix. Job-skills training directly related to employment;
 - x. Education directly related to employment in the case of a recipient who has not received a high school diploma or a certificate of high school equivalency;
 - xi. Satisfactory attendance at secondary school or in a course of study leading to a certificate of general equivalence, in the case of a recipient who has not completed secondary school or received such a certificate; and
 - xii. The provision of childcare services to an individual who is participating in a community service program.
- D. Family members who are exempt from work activity under part A title IV of the Social Security Act or under any other State welfare program, including the welfare-to-work program
- E. Family members receiving assistance under a State program funded under part A title IV of the Social Security Act or under any other State welfare program, including welfare-to-work and who are in compliance with that program

Volunteer Opportunities

Community service includes performing work or duties in the public benefit that serve to improve the quality of life and/or enhance resident self-sufficiency, and/or increase the self-responsibility of the resident within the community.

An economic self-sufficiency program is one that is designed to encourage, assist, train or facilitate the economic independence of participants and their families or to provide work for participants. These programs may include programs for job training, work placement, basic skills training, education, English proficiency, work fare, financial or household management, apprenticeship, and any program necessary to ready a participant to work (such as substance abuse or mental health treatment).

Suggestions of places to contact for volunteer positions:

At the Housing Authority 273-4717

If you are interested in donating your time at the housing authority we will gladly add your name to our list of volunteers and contact you when there is work such as:

Monthly newsletter delivery, Planting flowers, Picking up trash around the complexes, Stuffing envelopes for mass mailings, etc.



In the City

Watervliet Civic Center: 273-5922

Youth Organizations such as – Pop Warner, [Little League](#), Youth Soccer, Boy/Girl Scouts, Boys/Girls Clubs, Meals on Wheels

Schools, Churches, Senior Centers, Library

Around the Capital Region

Check out these websites for information on great volunteer opportunities around the region

www.volunteermatch.org

www.nationalservice.org



Every Sunday The Albany Times Union has volunteer listings

Participation in community service activities must be recorded on the [Volunteer Time Sheet](#) and submitted to the Housing Authority at the end of each month.

Self-sufficiency activities include, but are not limited to:

- Family Investment Center programs
- Apprenticeships
- Hope IV activities and planning programs
- Resident Opportunity and Self-sufficiency Programs (ROSS)
- Job training programs
- College classes
- GED classes
- Substance abuse or mental health counseling
- English proficiency or literacy classes
- Budgeting and credit counseling



*Additional information attached



The ACAP provides several self-sufficiency programs such as Comprehensive Career Planning, Pre-Employment Intensive Workshops, Resume Writing & Mock Interviews, Certified Career Trainings, Job Search & Placement Assistance, Transportation and Professional Attire Assistance, Retention Services and more. Go to www.albanycap.org to learn about more programs and additional information.

Participation in the self-sufficiency activities must be documented and submitted to the Housing Authority monthly.

Failure to comply with the community service requirement will result in ineligibility for continued occupancy at the time of any subsequent annual reexamination.

“GETTING AHEAD IN A

JUST-GETTIN'-BY WORLD™

Living paycheck to paycheck?

Want a better life for your family but can't seem to overcome certain obstacles?

Looking for support and tools to make changes?

Then join us!



Getting Ahead groups meet around the City of Cohoes, once a week, for 16-weeks. We discuss everything from work to rent to kids. Group meetings are private and casual. Childcare is provided for some of the groups.

If you are interested or want more information please contact Brittney Hunt, Cohoes Bridges Coordinator, at (518) 935-3381.



The mission of the Cohoes Multi-Service Senior Citizens Center, Inc. is to promote the dignity of older adults living in the community; and to provide the programs and services needed to support their living healthy and productive lives.

COHOES BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY, A PROGRAM OF THE COHOES MULTI-SERVICE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER

10 Cayuga Plaza, Cohoes, New York 12047
518-935-3381

cohoesbridges@gmail.com
www.cohoesseniorcenter.org