



The

Homefront

Fostering a Connection with Our Communities and Neighbors

Welcome from the President:

ECC Community,

This year at Elm City Communities/Housing Authority of New Haven, we are celebrating 85 years as an organization by reaffirming our commitment to continuous learning and investing in our intergenerational, diverse, and growing communities here in the Elm City. Even as yellowing and falling leaves herald the dwindling time remaining in the year, and shorter and shorter days, it also marks a season of new beginnings and the culmination of so much hard work done over the relatively slower summer months and beyond.

This past summer in our community, there was a lot to celebrate. While some of our young people graduated from high school and began a new journey into their next phase of life, through our national summer week of learning, we hosted events to highlight, celebrate, and expose our community members to different resources and opportunities (from wellness to STEM to the arts), all while enjoying a few slices and some ice cream. *[Cont. pg 2]*



SAVE THE DATES

Office Closures:

- Indigenous Peoples Day - October 9th
- Veterans Day - November 10th
- Thanksgiving - November 23 - 24th
- Christmas - December 25th
- New Year's Day - January 1st

ECC Board of Commissioners Meetings:

- October 17th
- November 21st
- December 19th

Every third Tuesday of the month. Open to the public at our 360 Orange St. offices and available virtually and streaming live on our Facebook page.

President's Welcome Cont.

Fall is often a time for change, whether it's going back to school or starting a new job. To ease those sometimes jarring transitions, and to provide opportunities for others to explore new possibilities, we've been hard at work organizing our annual back-to-school fair for our young people, and a job fair at Mill River Crossing for job seekers new and old. Thanks to all the families, staff, and partner organizations who made these community events possible and enjoyable.

As the Housing Authority of New Haven, our organization has been committed to providing housing since our very inception over 85 years ago in another sweltering August. Our first development, Elm Haven (now the site of Monterey Place), was one of the very first public housing developments in the entire country, which was developed in response to a lack of safe and sanitary housing options for local families.

Things have evolved from where they were in the 30s and 40s, and ECC has evolved along with it. In 2023, we recognize the importance of doing more than simply providing housing, because we understand that our mission is better understood as building homes and fostering thriving neighborhoods. As we look toward the future and attempt to find solutions for our ongoing housing crisis, we must remember where we came from and keep in mind the lessons of the past.

To all the students going back to school, best of luck in the school year ahead! To all the parents, I join in your excitement as you watch your children leave your homes and head back out into a new school year.



Affordable Connectivity Program
*Helping Households Get
Access to Broadband*



The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC benefit program that Congress created to help ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more.

Learn if you qualify and apply at: [AffordableConnectivity.gov](https://www.AffordableConnectivity.gov)



BREAKING GROUND REPORT

On Monday, July 24th, we held a press conference announcing the release of *Breaking Ground: Solutions to Advance Housing Affordability in New Haven*, a report written by Elm City Communities Housing Policy Manager Will Viederman.

This report builds off of our recent community conversation series of the same name, which brought together experts and community members to share in a dialogue about the state of housing in Connecticut.

New Haven is deeply housing cost-burdened, in both richer and poorer neighborhoods across the city. Homelessness was declining or stagnant for much of the 2010s, but has increased since the beginning of the pandemic.

Housing was growing more affordable in the city for much of the 2010s because incomes were growing faster than rents. Progress stopped around the beginning of the pandemic.

The report summarizes housing data since 2010 and focuses on policy recommendations for the city of New Haven to implement in the short and long-term.

Check out the report at elmcitycommunities.org/breaking-ground-report-2023/



Back-to-School Bash!

Our annual back to school fair returned in-person this year after three years of remote and drop off events.

Cotton candy, popcorn, face-painting, a photo booth, and games galore made one of the coolest days of the summer that much nicer at Clinton Avenue School with hundreds in attendance throughout the day.

In addition to the fun and games, students received book bags and other school supplies in preparation for a new school year.



“I’m excited about going back to school, looking forward to it,” said Jayanna Pullen, 10. (*not pictured*), who said she enjoyed the fair. “I’m going into the fifth grade and all my teachers have been nice so I’m looking forward to my fifth grade teacher being nice, too.”

It was great to see our residents connect, have fun, and gear up for the new academic journey ahead. Here’s to a successful and empowering school year for everyone!



VALLEY STREET REDEVELOPMENT

From pre-foundation, to the first brick laid to fully framed homes -- three buildings at our Valley Street Redevelopment are fully topped out and another three are on the way!

The Valley Street project is starting to look like a real development!

Follow The Glendower Group on social media for updates as this project progresses.

[Facebook.com/theglendowergroup](https://www.facebook.com/theglendowergroup)
[Instagram.com/theglendowergroup](https://www.instagram.com/theglendowergroup)
[Twitter.com/glendower_group](https://twitter.com/glendower_group)





For more than eight decades, we've been dedicated to providing safe, secure, and affordable housing options for individuals and families in our community. As we celebrate 85 years since our founding, we remain resolute in our commitment to uplifting the lives of our community members and neighbors and to fostering thriving neighborhoods.

At our core, we are not just building housing - we're building homes.

In celebration, throughout this year, we will be showcasing ECC's history and highlighting affordable housing throughout the decades! Here's to 85 more! Follow us on social media to learn more about the history of ECC.

Facebook: Elm City Communities | Twitter: @ECCommunities | Instagram: @elmcitycommunities_hanh

Are you an ECC resident interested in starting your own business? We're here to help you start and grow!

If you want to take the next steps, apply to our Resident Owned Businesses (ROBs) accelerator program.

Program includes

- Business Plan/Review
- Business Processes
- Operational Coaching
- Sales Strategies
- Marketing Insight
- Virtual Storefront

Check out details on the flyer and scan the QR code to apply!

Have questions? You can reach out to via email or phone to robi@canilive.org or 202.304.6995



WIN CONTRACTS WITH ELM CITY COMMUNITIES!

15 SLOTS AVAILABLE!

robi

NOW ENROLLING

• OPEN •

MUST Be:

- 18+ Years Old
- Elm City Communities Resident
- Internet / Wi-Fi
- Computer / or Laptop

Convenient

- 12 Weeks Accelerator
- 100 % Virtual
- Evening & Weekends

SCAN TO APPLY!

Program Includes:

- ✓ Business Plan / Review
- ✓ Business Processes
- ✓ Operational Coaching
- ✓ Sales Strategies
- ✓ Marketing Insight
- ✓ Virtual Storefront

robi@canilive.org
202.304.6995

SUMMER LEARNING WEEK

We had an absolute blast celebrating Summer Learning Week!

Our CED team went all out with three days of jam-packed adventure and knowledge as we explored three exciting topics over three amazing days:

- Amazing Arts
- The Wonders of Wellness, Health, & Sports
- Science, Tech, Engineering, and Math

From engaging science experiments to thrilling outdoor activities, we basked in the sunshine while discovering more about our vibrant community.

A massive shoutout goes to our incredible CED team for their hard work and dedication in making this event truly unforgettable





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 Elm City Communities

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