Many of you may know Liz Velázquez as one of the friendly faces ready to assist you at our Summit Street office. She is the Leasing Supervisor for MHAGH, but is also a former tenant of Brick Hollow – a property MHAGH manages – and a graduate of Ready-to-Rent (R2R).

Liz has a great smile, and she loves to see the smile on residents’ faces. She says, “It feels really good to help people find a stable home for their family. It fills my heart.” She loves her job, and her favorite part is when MHAGH develops new properties for her to lease-up. She believes affordable housing is a great way to develop a sense of community, as it provides stability for families long-term, which allows relationships to grow.

When Liz first applied for an MHAGH apartment in 2009, she was facing credit issues that jeopardized her ability to qualify for an apartment. However, after completing MHAGH’s R2R program, Liz gained tools to help her understand credit and money management. After that, she moved to her native Puerto Rico, and when she returned to Connecticut in 2012, she secured an apartment with MHAGH and coincidentally was placed with MHAGH as an office assistant through a temp agency. She was permanently hired in 2013. The affordable rent at Brick Hollow gave her family stability, which freed Liz to enjoy other activities – she took advantage of the gym at Pope Park, and enjoyed almost daily bike rides with her children while she was a resident.

Today, the most challenging part of Liz’s job is getting residents engaged – she wants them to know that MHAGH is not just about rent: “With us, if you need food, we’re there for you – we have a food pantry. If you need help to manage your money, there’s classes for that.” She hopes that residents take advantage of the different ways MHAGH offers assistance to its tenants.

Liz balances her career with family life. She is married with two children, ages 6 and 13. Among other activities, they enjoy playing video games as a family. When asked how she does it all, she says “I just do!” Her favorite quote for both family and work is “Teamwork makes dreams work!” MHAGH is glad she is on their team!

**Faces of MHAGH:**

Liz Velázquez

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A Note to Our Residents

Catherine MacKinnon, Executive Director

Autumn has arrived along with the leaves changing that are beautiful to witness here in New England. You might notice we have added new features to our Resident Newsletter. We have highlighted a staff member each month. Our first story is about an employee who had the unique experience of also being a past resident. We will also include changes to our Resident Newsletter! We have added new features, educational and leadership opportunities. Please follow us on social media! If there is anything you see here in New England, you might notice we have also made changes to our Resident Newsletter. We have added new features, educational and leadership opportunities.

Sincerely,
Catherine MacKinnon
Executive Director

Food Pantries

MHAGH, through a partnership with FoodShare, has three pantry locations available to all MHAGH residents. You can stop by to shop for a selection of canned goods, fresh produce, and frozen meats.

- Union Street, Manchester — Every 3rd Thursday, 5-7 pm
- Webster Street, Hartford — Every 3rd Wednesday, 5-7 pm
- MHAGH on Niles Street — Call to make an appointment

Home Buyer Education

Thinking about buying your first home?

Join us for a one-day educational seminar. This course provides in-depth instruction on the steps towards homeownership. Upcoming 2017 dates:

- Saturday, October 28
- Saturday, November 18
- Saturday, December 9

Educación de los Compradores Caseros

Pensado en comprar su primera casa?

Únase a nosotros para un seminario de un día. Este curso provee instrucciones a profundidad sobre los pasos hacia compra de vivienda. Próximas clases para 2017:

- Sabado 28 de octubre
- Sabado 18 de noviembre
- Sabado 6 de diciembre

For all questions or to register for programs contact DEBORAH BROADEN,
Program Manager of Educational Services and Resources
EMAIL: dbroaden@mutualhousing.org | DIRECT: (860) 206-5259

Servicios Educativos & Recursos Residentes

Despensas de Comida

MHAGH, a través de una asociación con FoodShare, tiene tres despensas de alimentos disponibles para todos los residentes de MHAGH. Ustedes pueden detenerse a comprar una selección de productos enlatados, productos frescos, y carne congelada.

- Union Street, Manchester — Cada 3ro jueves, 5-7 pm
- Webster Street, Hartford — Cada 3ro miércoles, 5-7 pm
- MHAGH en Niles Street — Llamar para hacer una cita

Consejería Financiera

Los servicios de consejería gratuitos y confidenciales están ahora disponibles para todos los residentes de MHAGH. Citas de día y de noche disponibles.

- Asesoramiento Presupuestario
- Consejería de Crédito Uno-a-Uño
- Lograr y Mantener la Estabilidad Financiera

Listo para Aquilar

Este programa está diseñado para ayudarle a CONSTRUIR su crédito, REPARAR el historial de alquiler pasado, y APRENDER nuevas habilidades de presupuesto. Seis sesiones:

- 25 octubre
- 29 noviembre
- 1 noviembre
- 6 diciembre
- 15 noviembre
- 13 diciembre

Para preguntas o para registrarse, comuníquese con DEBORAH BROADEN,
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