

HopePHL
NAC SERVICES

- Rent and property tax rebates.
- Tangled Title Assistance.
- 311 services and help.
- Reporting litter, unsafe, or vacant lots/buildings.
- Connecting to help with utility bills.
- Housing resources.
- Foreclosure prevention and home repairs.
- Expungement/pardon referrals.



CONTACT KEVIN BROWN AT 267-777-5820 OR VIA EMAIL AT KEVINB@HOPEPHL.ORG TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT!

Supported by Division of Housing & Community Development



THE 2024 PTRR EXPANSION:

- Increases the maximum standard rebate from \$650 to **\$1,000**
- Increases the income cap from \$35,000 to **\$45,000** for homeowners
- Increases the income cap from \$15,000 to **\$45,000** for renters
- **Automatically increases** the income cap to grow with inflation in years to come


PTRR ELIGIBILITY

The rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians:

- Age 65 and older
- Widows and widowers age 50 and older
- People with disabilities age 18 and older

Submit your application online through myPATH.pa.gov

Call: 215-879-7777 For more info: Revenue.PA.Gov



NAC Fire Safety Receive a FREE Smoke Detector SCAN QR CODE:



Additional Resources

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) can help.

LIHEAP Crisis: Can help stop a shut-off of utility service, get service turned back on, or get fuel if a household is out of fuel or will soon run out of fuel. For more information about LI HEAP, please contact your county assistance office, or call the LI HEAP hotline at 1-866-857-7095, Monday through Friday. Individuals with hearing impairments may call 711.

www.restorerepairrenew.org
restorerepairrenew@phmc.org
 877-515-0575

Contact:
 Kevin Brown, NAC Manager
 267-777-5820
KevinB@hopephl.org

Activities are funded in part by Division of Housing and Community Development.

ELIGIBLE SENIORS CAN SAVE MONEY with the **Senior Tax Freeze Real Estate program.**

Eligible senior homeowners who live in Philadelphia as their primary residence can "freeze" property tax bills from the prior year and pay the same for as long as they live in that property.

How to Apply:

ONLINE: Visit phila.gov/senior-freeze for details and to check your eligibility.

PHONE: Call (215) 686-6442 to speak with a representative for information and assistance with your application.

ELIGIBILITY: Age and income limits apply.



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HopePHL
 NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE (NAC) PROGRAM
NEWSLETTER

SPONSORED BY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT/DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



VOLUME 1 | 2024

9th Annual NAC Halloween Decorations Contest - Spooky Fun for All



As the fall season settled in and the air became crisp, there was an exciting opportunity to bring the neighborhood together with the 9th Annual Halloween-themed NAC House decoration contest! While Halloween is known for its spooky costumes and candy galore, turning the annual event into a fun, community-wide activity has offered more than just a chance for creativity and a few frights—it has fostered a sense of unity, safety, and holiday spirit among residents - for almost

a decade. The Neighborhood Advisory Committee at HopePHL (NAC) uses the perennial contest to promote their services. The NAC assists community members with delinquent Property Taxes, Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention and Tangle Deed Title. The NAC also connects residents to many City Services. Whether Contest participants were new businesses on the corridor of Lancaster Avenue or long-time residents, everyone got involved - to display their unique personalities and imaginative ideas. The NAC Ninth Annual Halloween Contest fostered a spirit of togetherness, encouraging everyone to join in the fun and make their neighborhood a spook-tacular place to live, while sharing resources for home preservation and city services!



NAC goes Pink: Sharing Awareness



The Neighborhood Advisory Committee at HopePHL co-hosted a combined themed event that highlighted both Breast Cancer Awareness and housing challenges as a powerful way to address two critical issues that impact the African American community.

Breast cancer disproportionately affects African Americans, and the awareness and education around early detection, prevention, and treatment are vital. By combining breast cancer awareness with NAC service outreach, this event brought much-needed attention to the unique challenges faced by African American communities. The NAC health partners at Penn Medicine collaborated to educate attendees about how housing stability and home preservation can improve health and well-being. The NAC provided many resources related to housing and city services.

NAC Legal Palooza Empowering West Philadelphia

In neighborhoods like West Philadelphia, access to legal resources can be a major

barrier to successfully face challenges related to legal issues - such as, tangled title deeds, utility assistance, record clearing, and housing. To help bridge that gap, the Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC) organized a free legal clinic that offered a unique and invaluable opportunity for residents - to address these concerns without the financial burden of hiring a private attorney.



For many families in West Philadelphia, ownership of their homes may be complicated by tangled or unclear title deeds, often passed down through generations without proper legal formalities - such as Wills. This can create significant challenges, from being unable to sell the home to facing difficulties with taxes or inheritance. Legal professionals at the NAC Clinic offered guidance on clearing up these title issues - that offered residents a path toward securing ownership rights, increasing homeownership security, and preserving family assets for future generations. Additionally, the NAC partnered with the Philadelphia Lawyers for Social Equity (PLSE) to provide legal advice on obtaining expungements and pardons.

The free legal clinic hosted by the Neighborhood Advisory Committee was not just a service—it's a crucial tool for empowering West Philadelphia residents to overcome legal obstacles and secure a better future. By addressing key issues such as housing stability, legal ownership, and expungement - through this collaborative effort, the NAC helps West Philadelphia become a more equitable, informed, and empowered place for all its residents.

NAC Job Fair & City of Philadelphia Hiring Bus



The Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC) was thrilled to launch a special job fair in partnership with the City of Philadelphia's Hiring Bus, hosted right at our community office on 4017 Lancaster Avenue! This event offered a unique opportunity for attendees to connect directly with city departments and employers who are hiring, plus learn about tangled title and other NAC service issues, all in one convenient location.

The Hiring Bus was on-site, providing information about open positions with the

city and offering resources to help refine job searches. Whether they were looking for full-time, part-time, or seasonal work, this event was a great way to explore career options, submit applications, and even get tips on resume-building and interview skills.



By hosting this job fair, the NAC created opportunities that empowered our community with housing stability programs and helped residents take the next step in their careers.

Celebrating Seniors: NAC's Holiday Luncheon with Local Partners

This holiday season, the Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC) co-hosted a special luncheon for Seniors in partnership with United Block Captains, Political Leaders, Penn Medicine, and faith-based institutions like Victory Christian Center. This festive event was not only a time to celebrate the holidays but also an opportunity to provide essential resources and support to our Senior community members.

Seniors attending the luncheon enjoyed a delicious meal while receiving giveaways,

and valuable information on key topics, including housing assistance, resolving tangled title deeds, estate planning, and utility assistance.



By bringing together community partners and local institutions, this event strengthened our support network for seniors, making sure they have access to both social connection and the practical resources that improve their quality of life. It was a wonderful way to spread holiday cheer - while providing meaningful assistance.

Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC) Hosts Free Community Night at the Zoo

The Neighborhood Advisory Committee recently co-hosted a memorable free community night at the Philadelphia Zoo! Families and neighbors came together to experience the enchanting Lumi-Nature event. This festive display featured beautifully decorated Christmas trees, each one designed to honor a different animal at the zoo.

Our NAC tree was a heartfelt tribute to the majestic rhino, creatively adorned to reflect the spirit of this incredible animal.

The event provided a unique opportunity for local residents to connect with each other while enjoying the holiday lights, vibrant decorations, and the zoo's magical atmosphere.

The Neighborhood Advisory Committee was proud to participate on this special evening - as a way to bring the community together, support the zoo, and create lasting memories during the holiday season! The NAC also provided valuable community-based resources.

Neighborhood Advisory Committee Hosts Two-Day Community Conference on Vital Homeownership Topics



The Neighborhood Advisory Committee held a two-day community conference designed to provide valuable information and resources to City residents. This event happened in collaboration with all the NAC Offices - City-wide! The conference covered a range of important topics, including estate planning, living wills, first-time buyer programs, home repair programs and how to secure a clear title for your home.

Participants had the opportunity to engage with experts who could provide insights

and answer questions on various subjects, helping attendees navigate key aspects of homeownership and financial planning. Whether they were looking to purchase their first home, settle property taxes/deeds or understand the legalities around estate planning, this conference offered something for everyone.

This collaborative event was an informative and empowering two days, that helped towards securing a better future for our city residents.

NAC hosted a Turnkey Workshop

The Neighborhood Advisory Committee invited local participants to a special Homeownership Workshop at our community office at 4017 Lancaster Ave. This workshop featured a presentation on the City of Philadelphia's Homeownership Program. Turnkey is a unique opportunity for prospective homeowners to purchase renovated homes with support from the city.

During the session, participants learned about the Turnkey Program's benefits, including access to affordable, move-in-ready homes, as well as the process for applying and qualifying. City experts were on hand to answer questions, provide guidance, and help attendees understand the steps toward homeownership.

Attendees looking to purchase a home in Philadelphia used this workshop as a fantastic opportunity to get informed and take the next step toward owning a home.

NAC's 10th Annual Fire & Ice Celebration

The Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC) is proud to host its 10th Annual Fire and Ice!



Every year, the NAC host this vibrant community event - that honors African American heritage, culture, and traditions. This year's celebration marked a decade of bringing neighbors together to celebrate the principles of Kwanzaa—unity, self-determination, collective work, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith.

"Fire and Ice" is not only a time to reflect on the richness of African culture but also a powerful opportunity for community connection. Through music, dance, storytelling, and delicious food, this event brought people of all ages together to celebrate the season and the values that strengthen our community.

By hosting this annual celebration, the NAC fosters a sense of belonging and pride, while providing a space for intergenerational learning and cultural exchange. Additionally, the NAC provides housing resources such as Tangled Title Assistance, Home Repair Programs, Utilities Assistance and Health Screenings.

The NAC also celebrated this milestone event with a turkey and holiday wreath giveaway, a live ice sculptor carving, bonfire and musical performances. The NAC uses this annual event to continue to build a stronger, more informed and united community!