

Stevens Point Housing Authority

Resident News

Scattered-Site Apartments

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Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program Is Now At SPHA

What is the Family-Self Sufficiency (FSS) Program?

FSS is a five-year program offered to all SPHA tenants who are 18 and older to help them achieve their career, educational, and other personal goals.

Here is how the FSS Program Works:

- **Develop a Plan:** Participants, along with the Resident Service Coordinator, create a 5-year plan that outlines their career-related goals and objectives.
- **Explore Opportunities:** Participants may enroll in a variety of courses, programs, and skills trainings through program partners.
- **Work and Grow Savings:** As household income increases due to employment, the increase in rent will be deposited in a savings account.
- **Receive Escrow Account:** Upon successful completion of the FSS program, participants receive the accumulated savings from the escrow account.

If you are interested in learning more about the FSS Program, you can reach out to **Beth Rosenow, Resident Services Coordinator**, at 715-341-3444 Ext. 6 or E-mail: brosenow@spha-wi.org.

Are you eligible for a dependent deduction?

If you add a dependent (a new child, full-time student) to your household, you may qualify for the annual deduction of \$480. You must supply a social security number and birth certificate to the office.

Next Board Meeting

The SPHA Board meeting will take place on Monday, October 30, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. in Hi-Rise dining room. For more details, visit www.spha-wi.org/events.



Very Important Notice

Hey there! Just a quick reminder 🗨️ – if someone is not on the lease, they cannot live with you or stay as a guest for more than 7 days. ⌚ If they plan to stick around longer, fill out a Guest Request Form. 📋 It's all about following the rules and keeping things smooth! 😊🏠

Get Ready for Fall & Winter

What do I have to do before Fall?

- Any gardens planted next to the buildings should be cleared of plant debris and the yard waste disposed of.
- Chiminea, fire pits, outdoor fireplaces, and any other similar devices are NOT allowed on the property.
- Bring all personal items inside (bikes, lawn chairs, lawn ornaments, hoses, etc.).
- Outside items should be stored in your basement.
- Yards should be cleared of trash. Nothing should be stored in the window wells.
- No cardboard or cloth should cover the garden beds.

What do I have to do before Winter?

- You are responsible for shoveling snow and ice from your front and back doors to the main sidewalks as well as your driveway.
- If you are unable to shovel, you will need to find someone who can assist you. If you are out of town, you are still responsible for shoveling. See House Rules, Lease Addendum No. 3.
- Be attentive to snow removal postings.
- Make sure your furnace is working before winter starts. If it is not working call routine maintenance.
- Report any broken thermostats as this can affect the control of heating.
- Prevent damage to the pipes. Don't turn down your thermostat below 60 degrees.
- Keep windows closed to conserve heat.

Got something big to toss?

Here's the lowdown on disposal:

- **City Drop-Off:** For large items, head to the City Drop-Off at Bukolt Park, 100 Sixth Avenue. It's open on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. They charge \$15.00 per bulk item (like mattresses, couches, chairs, and furniture).
- **At Madison View:** If you leave large items by the dumpster at Madison View, we'll charge you \$15 per item, plus the staff's time to remove and dispose of it.
- **More Info:** Check out <https://stevenspoint.com/368/Drop-Off-Site> for details about the City Drop-Off. And if you want to know about recycling, visit <https://www.stevenspoint.com/249/GarbageRecycling>.

2024 PHADA Scholarship

In 2024, PHADA is offering three scholarships for those of you heading off to college. Here's the deal:

- If you qualify, a package will be sent your way with all the requirements.
- Didn't get the package or need more info? Reach out to the office or visit www.phada.org/Scholarship.

Don't miss out on this opportunity!

Homebuyer Workshop

Date: Tuesday, November 29, 2023
Time: 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM
Location: Madison View Apts, 725 John's Dr. #10
Eligibility: SPHA Residents only
Contact: Beth Rosenow at 715-341-3444 Ext. 6

We're happy to answer your questions and/or concerns.

Central Office: 1300 Briggs Court, Stevens Point, WI 54481
Office hours: Mon-Thu: 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Fri: 9 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Office #: (715) 341-3444

Website: www.spha-wi.org

Fax #: (715) 341-4656

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StevensPointHA

Jennifer Keller	Ext. 0	Financial Clerk	jkeller@spha-wi.org
Laurie Grube	Ext. 1	Occupancy Specialist	lgrube@spha-wi.org
Yami Hill	Ext. 2	Administrative Program Specialist	yhill@spha-wi.org
Jay Feltz	Ext. 3	Maintenance & Bldg. Manager	jfeltz@spha-wi.org
Idowu Odedosu	Ext. 5	Executive Director	iododosu@spha-wi.org
Beth Rosenow	Ext. 6	Resident Services Coordinator	brosenow@spha-wi.org

Routine Maintenance #: (715) 341-3444 Ext. 8

Emergency Maintenance #: (715) 204-9707

Santa Claus is Coming to Town

Join us for the second annual "Cookies & Pictures with Santa Claus" event hosted by the Stevens Point Housing Authority. It's a chance to:

- Take your own picture with Santa.
- Tell Santa your Christmas wishes.
- Enjoy delicious cookies.
- Sip on warm hot chocolate.



Date: Thursday, December 14, 2023

Time: 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Location: 725 John's Drive, Unit 10

This festive fun is open to all SPHA tenants and their children at Madison View, Scattered Sites, and Hi-Rise Manor. Don't miss out on the holiday cheer! E-mail or call Yami to register.



Paying Rent Made Easy!

Tenants can pay their full monthly rent through the following methods:

- **Zelle:** Use Zelle through your bank or the Zelle app for instant and free electronic rent payments.
- **Zego:** Visit <https://www.spha-wi.org/> to create an account to make your payments.
- **ACH:** Set up automatic rent payments for a stress-free experience.

For more information on rent payments, please contact Jennifer at jkeller@spha-wi.org

Remember, no cash is accepted. To stay in good tenant status, get in touch before your payment is late. Contact Jennifer Keller (Ext. 0) or Idowu Odedosu (Ext. 5) for help.

WAHA Scholarship

The Steve Falek Scholarship-Wisconsin Association of Housing Authorities (WAHA) offers two scholarships:

- Full-time students: \$2,000
- Part-time students: \$1,000

Due date to apply: January 3, 2024

Requirements: be a SPHA resident, be full-time or part-time student, have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher, submit 250-500 word essay on "My Career Goals," and provide two letters of recommendation. The application and instruction are available at www.wahaonline.org or contact Beth Rosenow at 715-341-3444 Ext 6 or at brosenow@spha-wi.org for a printed application.

Rent Certificates

By **January 2024**, you can request your rent certificates for 2023-2019. They will be issued by request only. If you want to file for the Homestead Tax Credit, send an email to Jennifer (jkeller@spha-wi.org) or stop by the office to request it. There is no need to fill out any form.

Do You Have A Pet But Do Not A Pet Permit?

Effective October 30th, unauthorized pets will incur a **\$5.00** daily charge. Remember "Pet sitting" is not allowed. Pet sitting is the same as having an unauthorized pet; you will incur a daily cost of **\$5.00**.

Pets must have authorization from SPHA staff. The Pet Policy is in your Tenant Handbook. If you need an updated version from **April 2021**, contact the office. It is best to submit all required verifications and Pet Permit Request simultaneously.

Applying for an ESA and Service Animals is a different process. Don't hesitate to contact Jay Feltz, jfeltz@spha-wi.org, 715-341-3444 ext. 3.

Pets other than ESA or Service Animals are not allowed at Madison View.

Here is an outline of the required verifications needed to get your pet authorized.

- Pet Permit Application
- ESA or Service Animal Application (if applicable), and signed by your medical professional
- \$50.00 Pet Deposit (not required for ESA or Service Animal application)
- Proof of Rabies and/or Distemper Vaccination
- Proof of Spay or Neuter any cat or dog
- License cat or dog with the City of Stevens Point



Residents must be current on all rent and charges and have no outstanding, serious, or repeated Lease violations to be approved for a pet.

Keep your furry friends authorized and happy!



Thanksgiving : Thu. Nov. 23 & Fri. Nov. 24, 2023
Christmas : Mon. Dec. 25 & Tue. Dec. 26, 2023
New Year: Mon. Jan 01, 2024
MLK, Jr.: Mon. Jan 15, 2024

SPHA's Smoke-Free Policy

- ❖ Cigarettes, cigars, pipes, hookahs, and e-cigarettes are prohibited in all public housing living units, administrative buildings, common areas, laundry rooms, stairways, entry ways, playgrounds, and picnic areas.
- ❖ Smoke outside 25 feet away from the building. If you feel that your clean air rights are being jeopardized and you think that someone in the building is smoking inside the premises, request a report form from the office.

Monthly Bus Passes

The monthly bus pass is \$25. Boys and Girls Club members and UWSP students can ride free with a valid ID from the club or a valid UWSP Point Card. Children age five or younger ride free with fare paying adult. Disabled or Seniors ride for \$0.65. For more information about reduced fares, visit <https://stevenspoint.com/259/Fares>

AC Removal

Call Maintenance line 715-341-9627 or 715-341-3444 Ext. 8 to request to remove your AC



Resident News

Stevens Point Housing Authority (SPHA)

1300 Briggs Court, Central Office

Stevens Point, WI 54481

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Text Only: (715) 200-3772

Fax: (715) 341-4656

Website: www.spha-wi.org

Facebook: [www.fb.com/StevensPointHA](https://www.facebook.com/StevensPointHA)