

NEWSLETTER



Mary Dade
Housing Program Manager

Housing Department

MHCDO's Second Annual Global Readiness Conference is scheduled for September 19, 2025, from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM. This year, our focus is to explore how climate change intensifies existing inequities and what we can do to prepare, respond, and rebuild stronger.

MHCDO's Small Business team will provide information on small businesses' emergency preparedness and disaster recovery

Our regular monthly Emergency Preparedness webinars reach audiences in Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, Honduras, Mexico, Barbados, Canada, Australia, Brunei, California, Utah, Nebraska, Texas, Alabama, Florida, Missouri, Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey, and the District of Columbia, so this conference is both in person and virtual to allow people from all communities to join.

None of this could be done without the support of our 15 sponsors, including Citibank, Tulane University, Green & Healthy Homes Initiatives, Greater Washington Region Clean Cities, Clark Premiere Realty Group, Washington Real Estate Brokers Association, Washington Informer, AFRO News, Tulane University, Wildlife Federation, Missouri Salvation Army, Ward 7 Resilience HUD Community Coalition, Homeland Security Emergency Management Agency, and Housing Action Illinois.



2ND ANNUAL GLOBAL READINESS CONFERENCE

WE WILL EXPLORE HOW CLIMATE CHANGE INTENSIFIES EXISTING INEQUITIES AND WHAT WE CAN DO TO PREPARE, RESPOND, AND REBUILD STRONGER.

JOIN US ONLINE OR IN PERSON FOR THIS FREE EVENT [LUNCH PROVIDED]:

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

9:00AM - 5:30PM

**3939 BENNING ROAD, NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20019**

REGISTER NOW

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

DR. MUSTAFA SANTIAGO ALI
Environmental Justice Activist

JYLANA L. SHEATS, PH.D.
Tulane University

SPONSORS: WREBA REALTY, MHCDO, citi, CLARK PREMIER REALTY GROUP

Workforce Development

August was a month full of back-to-school celebrations across Ward 7, with local churches, service providers, and nonprofit partners coming together to support families as the new school year begins. Two stand-out events this month were the Places of Worship Advisory Board's *Community Day* (August 23) and the DC Prevention Center's *International Overdose Awareness Week*, co-hosted by MHCDO (August 24-31).

Both events underscored the importance of health, wellness, and prevention in our community. Residents had the opportunity to learn more about self-care, chronic disease prevention, and resources to address some of the leading causes of death in our neighborhoods, including heart disease, cancer, diabetes, and substance abuse. Organizers also distributed Narcan to help reverse overdoses, worked to reduce stigma, and honored families and friends who have lost loved ones.

Meanwhile, MHCDO's own Mary Dade, held a special session for seniors on financial literacy and preventing senior fraud - empowering older residents with practical tools to stay safe and secure.

For a full list of local resources available to support you and your family, please contact Blythe Patenaude at bpatenaude@mhcd.org.



Blythe Patenaude
Director of
Business Development





Eldridge Allen
Director of
Small Business Development Program



Small Business Development

Ward 7 Back-2-School Drive

MHCDO was excited to be an organizational participant of the Ward 7 Back-2-School Drive organized by DC State Board of Education held Saturday, August 16th at East River Shopping Center's parking lot. To help prepare Ward 7 youth for a successful 2025 school year, the event provided over 300 backpacks stuffed with school supplies, free food, fun activities, uniform vouchers, and access to community resources providers.

The MHCDO Team assisted in stuffing supplies in backpacks. Tables and tents were also provided by our organization for the events. Other key community partners included Ward 7 Councilmember Felder's Office, East River Family Strengthening Collaborative (ERFSC), Ward 7 SBOE Representative Eboni-Rose Thompson, the Washington Teachers Union, the Ward 7 Education Council, Masjid Muhammad Community Center, DC Charter School Alliance, and Safeway.



Dream Accelerator 2025 Ward 7 Mini Pitch Competition

Eldridge Allen, proudly represented MHCDO as one of three judges at DSLBD's Dream Accelerator 2025 Ward 7 Mini Pitch Competition held Saturday, August 16th at the Community College Preparatory Academy in SE Washington, DC. The pitch competition is part of the 2025 Dream Accelerator program, a yearly business development cohort conducted in the summer for micro-business in Ward 7 and 8. The Dream Pitch Competition provides an opportunity for participants to present their business to a panel of judges, showcasing the knowledge gained through the program resulting in a pitch award between \$2,500 to \$10,000. Presenters included 18 emerging Ward 7 businesses / entrepreneurs!

Deanwood Heights Main Street

Deanwood Heights Main Streets teamed up with Boxing Not Bullets and Deanwood Deli to host two vibrant back-to-school events on August 16 and August 24, 2025.

These community-driven initiatives brought together local youth and families, distributing over 1,000 pairs of shoes, school supplies, and hygiene kits to East of the River students.

Boxing Not Bullets empowered youth with financial literacy workshops and boxing demonstrations, promoting discipline and resilience, while Deanwood Deli fostered community spirit with shoes, live music by youth GoGo Band "Sounds of the Youth," and engagement.

The events, held on Nannie Helen Burroughs Ave and at Deanwood Recreation Center, showcased the power of collaboration in uplifting the neighborhood and preparing students for a successful school year.



Paul Spires
Program Manager,
Deanwood Heights Main Street





Racquell Perry
Program Manager,
Pennsylvania Avenue East
Main Street

Pennsylvania Avenue East Main Street

Pennsylvania Avenue East at POWAB Community Day

On Saturday, July 22nd, Pennsylvania Avenue East Main Street (PAEMS) joined Daily Care Pharmacy — one of the newest businesses on the Avenue — at the annual Places of Worship Advisory Board (POWAB) Community Day.

PAEMS Director, Racquell Perry, and Dr. Ava connected with residents about the valuable services offered by Daily Care Pharmacy, including free prescription delivery within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile and immunization shots.

Daily Care Pharmacy is conveniently located in the Fairfax Village Shopping Center at 3845 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20020. To learn more or schedule services, call (202) 573-4153. All major insurance carriers and Medicaid are accepted.



Art All Night Activations

The Legacy Lounge @ Life Enhancement Services

1301 L'Enfant Square SE

Step inside as the private art collection of Herb Gray comes alive to the sounds of TrapChellist Chanel Kelley. Catch sets by DJ Father Fonz, glide with the National Hand Dance Association, and exhale as GunSmoke rolls fresh cigars.

Open Play @ Randle Highlands Randle Highlands Elementary

Light up the night with an all-ages evening of play! From a live DJ and fitness activations to lawn games, spades, a photo booth, and community resources, there's something for everyone.

Main Stage @ The Shops at Penn Branch 3200 Pennsylvania Ave. SE

Experience "Hoodrock" from Black Alley and a powerful performance by Grammy-nominated artist Mumu Fresh, hosted by DJ Flava and Sir Harvey Fitz. Shop local vendors and artisans while soaking up the sights, sounds, and soul of the Avenue.

Dine All Night Activations

Thai Orchid Kitchen

2314 Pennsylvania Ave. SE

Sip and stir with cocktail lessons from The Topsy Pedlar.

Miss Toya's Southern Kitchen

3216 Pennsylvania Ave. SE

Soul food + celebrity karaoke with Joi Carter & DJ Tank Beats.

Highlands Café

3200 Pennsylvania Ave. SE

A dinner party with flair: DJ Coco Spinelle and the For the Record Music Trivia Game Show.

Volunteers Needed

Art All Night is powered by neighbors like you. Multiple shifts and roles are available, plus, food is provided for all volunteers!

Sign up here:

<https://bit.ly/weareonevolunteers>