



## **CALLING ALL READERS!**

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The **Children of the World Reading Room** at Esperanza is now open on Tuesdays from 3:00 to 4:30 pm. Kids can read aloud, check out books, earn prizes and make some cool arts and crafts! ALL housing choice voucher participant children are welcome to join in on the fun!



## **ANNUAL OWNER WORKSHOP**

The workshop is open to all Owners currently participating in the Housing Choice Voucher program and any Owners/Landlords interested in participating in this worthwhile program for housing low-income families in the future.

Housing Authority staff will present an overview of the

- Alameda City Housing Authority and the Housing Choice Voucher program,
- October 28, 2016 (2-4pm)
- 703 Atlantic Avenue
- Sacramento, CA 94501

## **Halloween Safety Tips**

### **COSTUMES**

- Plan costumes that are bright and reflective. Consider adding reflective tape to costumes & trick-or-treat bags.
- Make sure that shoes fit well & that costumes are short enough to prevent tripping or contact with flames.
- Because masks can limit or block eyesight, consider non-toxic makeup and decorative hats instead.
- When shopping for costumes, purchase those with a label clearly indicating they are flame resistant.

### **TRICK-OR-TREAT TIPS**

- A parent or responsible adult should always accompany young children.
- If your older children are going alone, plan a route ahead of time & agree on a time when they should return home.
- Give flashlights with fresh batteries to all children & their escorts.
- Only go to homes with a porch light on & never enter a home or car for a treat.
- Because pedestrian injuries are the most common injuries to children on Halloween, remind Trick-or-Treaters:
  - Stay in a group.
  - Carry a cellphone for quick communication.
  - Stay on well-lit streets & always use the sidewalk.
  - Never cut across yards or use alleys.
  - Only cross the street as a group & always use crosswalks. Never cross between parked cars or out of driveways.
  - Remember that motorists may have trouble seeing Trick-or-Treaters. Just because one car stops, it doesn't mean others will.



Housing Authority of the City of Alameda

## **Fall 2016 Newsletter**

### **AHA Office Hours**

Monday – Friday, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm  
We are closed every other Friday

### **Upcoming Holiday Office Closures:**

Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> - Veterans' Day  
Thursday & Friday, November 24-25 Thanksgiving  
Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup> – Christmas  
Monday, Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> - New Year's  
Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> – MLK Jr.

Our office will be open in the mornings only,  
from 8:30 am – 12:00 pm,  
Tuesday, December 27 – Friday, December 30

Please see our website, [www.alamedahsg.org](http://www.alamedahsg.org) for up to date information on other office closures.

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**SELF-SUFFICIENCY  
OPPORTUNITY**

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The Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program is an employment and savings incentive program for low-income families and individuals that have Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV).

Participation is open to any participant in the Alameda Housing Authority's HCV program - *no matter what your education, age, work experience, career interests, or possible status as a person with a disability*. You will design and complete a five-year Individual Service and Training Plan (ITSP), which will allow you to reap the financial benefits of the FSS program.

There are spots open for persons motivated to work with the FSS Coordinator to create an ITSP and receive continued case management services. Emphasis is on education, employment, career development, credit readiness and independence from public assistance. A benefit of the FSS program is the opening of an Escrow (saving) Account which grows when you're earned income and your resulting tenant rent portion increases.

Applications are available at the front counter of the Housing Authority or on the website at [www.alamedahsg.org](http://www.alamedahsg.org). For further information please contact FSS Coordinator Kara Korbelt at 510-747-4337 with your questions.

### Covered California Open Enrollment

Covered California is the place where Californians can get brand-name health insurance under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. It's the only place to get federal premium assistance to help you buy private insurance. You may qualify for a discount on private insurance, or get health insurance through the state's Medi-Cal program.

All Californians can sign up during open enrollment beginning November 1, 2016 through January 31, 2017. You may also be eligible to sign up at any time during the year due to a life-changing event such as getting married, having a child or moving. Enrollment in Medi-Cal is year-round, as well.

For more information, visit:  
<http://www.coveredca.com/>



### 2016 Holiday Season Information from the Alameda Food Bank

#### Turkey/Holiday Food Bag Giveaway

- Saturday, Nov 19 (Check the Food Bank website for exact time & location)
- Bags will be distributed on a first come, first served basis
- Limit 1 turkey and 1 holiday bag per household

**Grocery Gift Cards** will be distributed throughout the month of December when households pick up their pantry package.

To participate, households must be registered clients of the Alameda Food Bank by November. To register with AFB, visit [www.alamedafoodbank.org](http://www.alamedafoodbank.org) and go to the Get Food tab, or call AFB at (510) 523-5850.

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### **CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

#### **ANNUAL COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING FEAST**

**11:00 am to 2:00 pm on  
Thanksgiving Day**

**In the Christ Church Parish Hall,  
1700 Santa Clara Avenue**

***Everyone is welcome!***