Metropolitan Educational Solutions, LLC

MES Monthly

Sept 2022

What's Going On at MES. We continue to work hard serving the under- housed and homeless individuals and families across the DC area. Our goal with other organizations is to provide services until there is no more homelessness in Washington, DC.

This is the time of year where many things change and many things begin. Like children and youth are back to school and so are adult learners. Welcome back!

he MES PSH program is changing. Our funding source will now be Medicaid. If you are a client of MES and are not sure what that means for you.

Set up a face to face meeting with your case manager so they can give you more information. MES client should listen out for the Medicaid assessment phone call and be mindful of a quiet space if their home at the time, with no distractions, from children that are not school age, tv, radio, etc.

Healthy Relationships

A healthy relationship is a relationship that requires "both" people creating an environment that is safe, respectful of the other person and where a person has the freedom to express themselves without fear of retaliation.

Signs of an unhealthy relationship. Ask yourself? Does this person have Power and control over me by using:

- Intimidation
- Emotional or Verbal Abuse
- Isolation & Minimizing,
- Denying and Blaming
- Using Children
- Economic Abuse
- Sexual Violence
- Coercion and Threats
- Physical Violence

If you identify with any of the above or just want to talk or ask questions.

We are here and "We Believe You" This is not your fault, "Domestic Violence" is A CRIME!

If you feel you are in an unhealthy relationships ; A Domestic Violence situation, there are organizations that are here to help you.

Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-7233

My Sister's Place 1 844-443-5732

The Family Place 202 265-0149

House of Ruth Legal 888-880-7884

Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network 1 800-656-4673

DC Safe Call or text directly at 844-4HelpDC (844-443-5732)

Crime Victims Compensation Program 202-879-4216

Know that you are not alone and we believe you.

By Case Manager, Linda Shaw, VASIII Certified Victims Assistance Specialist Tier Three

Events

Employment Assistance Drop- in

Shaw Library
Sept 22nd
12:30pm to 3pm study Room 3

Get help with:

- resume
- interview tips and skills
- applying for jobs online
- and more

Employment Workshop

Woodridge Library
September 29th
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

1801 Hamlin Street NE
Washington, D.C. 20018

Training Resource

Skyland Workforce Centre

- Construction Safety Training
- Retail Training
- Digital Literacy Class

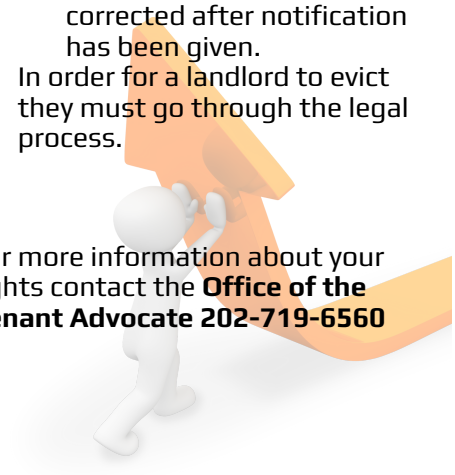
Call the center
(202) 793-2141
to register

Renter's Rights

Having a place to call home is what we all desire but maintaining it to be a pleasing safe space can sometimes be a challenge. Renting comes with having to communicate effectively with a landlord to ensure you are getting what you pay for.

There are rights that you should be aware of while in the process of renting and while you are residing in a place, Know that:

- An application fee should not be more than $50 and must be refunded if they do not run a screening on you.
- Criminal background checks are not to be conducted unless the landlord gives a conditional offer.
- Criminal record checks are limited to 48 specific crimes committed in the last 7 years.
- A landlord can evict if:
  - There is more than $600 past due rent or 2 months with notices given.
  - The tenant performed and illegal act inside the unit.
  - The tenant committed a violation of an obligation that has not been corrected after notification has been given.
- In order for a landlord to evict they must go through the legal process.



For more information about your rights contact the **Office of the Tenant Advocate 202-719-6560**

By JM

MES Monthly

Aug 2022

Welcome to MES Monthly where we update you about "What's Going On". MES. being a dynamic organization we want you to know of all the wonderful work we have in progress.

At MES we recognize we don't stand alone in this work to combat homelessness and we thank all our referral partners who help us to serve our clients and make the success of our clients possible with their services and dedication.

We also thank all the landlords who work with us to house our clients and keep their properties suitable for them.

MES will continue to work hard serving the under- housed and homeless individuals and families until there is no more homelessness in Washington, DC.

Career Coach DC

DC Now offers Career coaching. What does that mean? If you you want to land a new or better job, start training, change your career? A Career Coach DC can help you reach your goals!

The Career Coach DC program provides services that help you to achieve employment and education success you need guidance for free.

You can connect with the Career Coach DC program by registering online at **careercoach.dc.gov, by calling 202-989-1002, or by emailing careercoach@dc.gov.**

One-Time Back-to-School Payment for DC Families Receiving TANF

On August 18, 2022 Mayor Muriel Bowser and the DC Department of Human Services (DHS) announced that District families who are enrolled in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program will be receiving a one-time, back-to-school payment of approximately $1,000.

ESA Public Benefits Call Center at (202) 727-5355

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Employment and Training Program (SNAP E&T)

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Employment and Training (SNAP E&T) Program assists SNAP recipients in achieving their career goals by providing participants with a broad range of services focused on their interests and needs. The program is completely voluntary and participants receive reimbursements for eligible transportation, childcare, and other expenses related to participation. Loaner laptops are also available to eligible participants.

Please call our office at **202- 535-1178 or e-mail us at dhs.snapet@dc.gov** to get started.

https://dhs.dc.gov/

Events

Employment Assistance Drop- in

Anacostia Library
Aug 24th
12 to 3pm study room 3

Get help with:

- resume
- interview tips and skills
- applying for jobs online
- and more

Back- To- School Event In Partnership with Bennett Career Institute

700 Monroe Street NE
Aug 27th
10am to 2pm

- Free- Hair cuts and braids on pre washed hair- first come first serve
- Free gently used children's clothing
- Free back- to- school items

Terri deserves recognition for all the important contributions she makes. Her dedication, commitment, and passion for working with clients and their families to educate, empower and enable them to make informed decisions – moving them from temporary EHV housing to permanent housing. This makes a tremendous difference in their lives!

MES Monthly

July 2022

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Healthy Relationships

What is a healthy relationship?

Healthy relationships involve honesty, respect open communication and trust between partners. They are open to the efforts of each other and compromises from everyone involved. There is no imbalance of power. Partners respect each other's independence, can make their own decisions without fear of retribution or retaliation, and share decisions.

Who can you have a healthy relationship with?

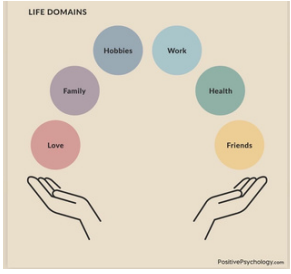
Family relationships, friendships, work related relationships, acquaintanceships and romantic relationships.

An Un -Healthy relationship may lead and consist of Domestic Violence.
Which type of relationship do you identify with?

24-hour National Domestic Violent Hotline 1-800-799-7233

By Case Manager Linda Shaw

How are you really doing?



We can sometimes neglect parts of our life that is painful or that is just part of our daily routine. It's so important to ask ourselves "how am I really doing?". Identify and acknowledge the feelings but focus on the goals associated with the different roles in our life.

If the emotions are tough to manage:

- Reach out for help. Your Case Manager is a great person to talk to and they can get you the support you need.
- Talk to a trusted friend
- Tell your doctor how your feeling
- call a help line

Access Help Line 1-888-793-4357

By JM

Events

Contact your case manager to register

Employment Assistance Drop- in

Anacostia Library
July 13th
12 to 3pm study room 3

Get help with:

- resume
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- and more

Renter's Rights

Friday July 15th
2:00- 3:00 pm
Zoom
Contact your case manager for the link

Back- To- School Event

Turkey Thicket Recreation Center
August 17, 2022
12:00pm - 5:00 pm

Case Manager of the Month, Joanita Stokes

Ms. Stokes is an individual who is well verse who I can say I never seen change do to change. What I mean by that is that in this type of business no day is the same and changes come at a high volume. With her energy and her mannerism, I have not yet seen a dent. She is always pleasant and displays respect to everyone in her presents. In a room full of people Ms. Stokes might be the quietest one but her work is very instrumental and well recognized. It is an honor and a pleasure in working with Ms. Stokes. I have been in both arenas with Ms. Stokes and her demeanor is still the same. Ms. Stokes character remains me of the gentleman in the movie Handcock. She sees good in everyone and tries to bring it out in her own special way. Thank you, Ms. Stokes, for all your hard work and just being a great teammate in a wonderful journey we are a part of here at MES and servicing our families.

MES Monthly

May 2022

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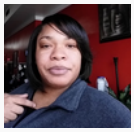
Client Success Story



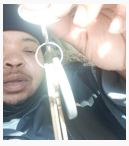
Latoya Burgess
This is a woman made up from many things, good, bad, hurt, pain, love and hate. To only have ever thought of the world as cruel and ugly, when we make it as beautiful as it can be. Through all the things that life brings can be mentally draining while we have to find that peace of me, of (you) too, to be successful in this world. SUCCESS is me SUCCESS is you. SUCCESS is what we brew when able to overcome struggles that others may or may not see only because without these struggles we would not know how to want and or need more.

Dec 2015 we were placed in a shelter until 2018. I i felt like I lost everything, even my mind at one point. But while at the shelter I found myself. I yearned to succeed and now I have accomplished many goals. Service Source hired me and I have contracted with them in this position. Security Clearance is off my list thanks to my new HUD position I started as an on call contractor. Now I work Monday-Friday permanently its been 4 Years 10 Months on call. I am also a board member for Echelon Community Services where I advocate for homeless persons and help with ideas to help with their barriers and HIV and mental health issues as well. It is ONLY because of life I am able to be successful in any of these areas.

So it's okay to be down or even feel broken but you are not because when it is bad enough you will brake that chain.. SUCCESS is not GIVEN it is DRIVEN... So let's be driven and be what you wanna be.

Written by Latoya Bugress
Case Manager -Charlene Crafton

Lease-up Highlights



We are happy to say that many of the clients who were located at various Pandemic Emergency Program for Medically Vulnerable Residents (PEP-V) sites have been successfully leased into units and now have a home!

The clients received furniture and welcome home gift cards for up to $200 to help purchase items for their new units.

MES case managers, understand that the lease up process seems long but know that at MES we are dedicated to ensuring our clients are stably and suitably housed.

Events

Contact your case manager to register

Case Manager of the Month

Ms. Andrea Wilkinson works diligently in engaging clients that have not been engaged with the agency. These families in her care were provided services that where truly needed for those families to reduce their barriers to success. Ms. Wilkinson is proactive and not reactive and always comes in with great energy. Ms. Wilkinson is a true asset to the family team and the entire MES family. We recognize Ms. Wilkinson and the great services and dedication that she provides effortlessly in servicing with her families.