



Regional Housing Authority

FALL 2024

# THRHA News

TLINGIT HAIDA REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY NEWSLETTER



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we step into the fall season, I am pleased to share our latest updates and information from the last quarter. Our focus remains on ensuring our communities and tribal citizens thrive. THRHA continues building new homes, and renovating existing homes throughout all communities. Together, we are working to make our communities flourish. The Tlingit phrase for this is "Góok, yagaxtoodláak!", which translates to "Let's go! We're going to make it! We're going to do it!". Here are some of the highlights we want to share with you:

## 2024 LIHEAP PROGRAM

The low-income home energy and assistance program (LIHEAP) completed its latest grant funding cycle. The program assists eligible, low-income households with their heating costs, bill payment assistance, energy crisis assistance, weatherization, and energy-related home repairs.

Per HelpAdvisor, nearly 1 in 6 U.S. households reported that they were unable to pay an energy bill or unable to pay the full bill amount, at least one month in the last year. And a further 51% reported that they reduced or forewent expenses for basic household necessities, such as medicine or food, in order to pay an energy bill at least one month in the last year.

THRHA has been a partner with LIHEAP since 2008. In the 2023-2024 LIHEAP grant year, THRHA provided assistance to 794 families. Below is the report for the 2024 LIHEAP funding by community:

## LIHEAP Community Report FY 2024

November 1, 2023-June 30, 2024

Physical City ↑	Sum of Total LIHEAP Payments	Record Count
Angoon	\$66,925.00	49
Craig	\$36,500.00	44
Douglas	\$8,800.00	16
Haines	\$21,825.00	23
Hoonah	\$61,125.00	58
Hydaburg	\$41,350.00	40
Juneau	\$143,808.75	202
Kake	\$57,800.00	59
Kasaan	\$6,325.00	7
Ketchikan	\$41,637.50	64
Klawock	\$49,262.50	60
Klukwan	\$10,600.00	10
Metlakatla	\$124,525.00	120
Pelican	\$1,500.00	2
PETERSBURG	\$13,325.00	15
Saxman	\$1,575.00	2
Wrangell	\$21,200.00	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$708,083.75</b>	<b>794</b>

A big thank you to our LIHEAP staff for all their work in bringing these program funds to our clients! The new grant starts November 1, 2024, with applications open to Elders and those who experience disabilities. The application period will be open for everyone on December 1, 2024. Please watch the THRHA website and Facebook for further updates.

## Construction Projects

Our crews are working on construction and renovation projects across Southeast Alaska. Here are some photos showcasing some of our current projects:



Douglas Crow Hill New Home Construction



Petersburg Duplex



Craig Senior Center

***Home Maintenance Tip!***

*With fall almost here, it is time to work on your home to prepare for winter. Here are some tips on getting your home ready:*



## ***Weatherizing Your Home and Property***

- Inspect your roof system for damaged shingles and signs of leaks.
- Inspect your attic for insulation, ventilation, mold, and mildew on the underside of roof sheeting.
- Inspect your crawl space and examine rim vents, vapor barriers, and pipe insulation for damage.
- Check and clean exhaust fans in bathrooms, kitchen, and laundry room to ensure proper air flow.
- Remove debris from gutters and downspouts. Check exterior water hose bibs for needed maintenance.
- Test fire extinguishers, and check carbon monoxide and smoke detectors.
- Replace your batteries in carbon monoxide and smoke detectors when clocks are adjusted for daylight savings.
- Store or remove outdoor items such as toys, bikes, charcoal grills, and tires to protect them from harsh winter elements.
- Service heating systems like heat pumps, oil-fired boilers, and wood stoves to ensure energy efficiency for the winter months.

## **REGISTER TO VOTE!**

As we approach the upcoming elections, it's important to exercise your right to vote and make your voice heard. If you haven't already registered, now is the perfect time to do so. Ensuring you're registered will allow you to participate in the decisions that affect our community and beyond. Our office can provide assistance with voter registration forms and answer any questions you might have about the process. Don't miss out on your opportunity to contribute to the democratic process!

The Alaska Division of Elections website contains information regarding elections and voting, most of which is intended to make the voter's job easier.

Please visit the State of Alaska's Online Voter Registration System. You have the option of filling the form out online, or you can print out a form to send in. Check your registration status here: [myvoterinformation.alaska.gov](http://myvoterinformation.alaska.gov) or register to vote here: [voterregistration.alaska.gov](http://voterregistration.alaska.gov).

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## **Program Highlights: Apprenticeship Program**

THRHA partners with Tongass Electric and Pacific Rim Mechanical to hire and train electrical and plumber apprentices. Apprentices must complete 8,000 hours of on-the-job training and hundreds of hours of classroom training to earn their journeyman license.

Our partner contractor provides on-the-job training and employment of our apprentices while THRHA coordinates the education and classroom instruction. Apprentices receive a wage while gaining practical experience and learning from a master craftsman. Upon achieving journeyman



status, apprentices earn certification, job mobility, and access to competitive wages.

One of our own tribal citizens, Jonah Davis, passed his residential exam and successfully earned his journeyman license. Congratulations, Jonah!



*Photo Credit: Tongass Electric*

## Juneau Flood Emergency Response



THRHA joined the Tlingit and Haida Tribal Emergency Operations team to respond to the Juneau flood emergency. Our team was extensively involved with removing water from homes and crawl spaces, and removing damaged carpet, furniture, household goods, sheetrock, and insulation.

It was very overwhelming for homeowners affected by this flood. A total of 173 tribal member households were impacted by the flood. The Tribal Emergency Operations team removed over half a million pounds of debris from homes and properties.

THRHA, through Haa Yakaawu Financial Corporation, is offering a Mendenhall River Flood Recovery Loan Program. Primary residences in the identified flood zone may be eligible for a loan of up to \$50,000 to assist with renovating their homes. Visit [hyfclending.com](https://hyfclending.com) or call 907-780-3105.

Other assistance may be available and can be found on the City and Borough of Juneau website: <https://juneau.org/manager/flood-response>.

## Welcoming THRHA's New Hires:

Rey Moy – Housing Customer Service Specialist  
**Teresa Horner-Yerkey - Housing Customer Service Specialist**  
Nicole Jesus – Administrative Clerk (Receptionist)  
**Jaden Rodriguez – Construction Laborer**  
Braedon Marrs – Carpenter  
**Dexter Miles – Lead Carpenter**  
Matthias Williams – Construction Laborer

## Juneau Neighborhood Clean Up

Some of our Juneau headquarter staff conducted a neighborhood clean up for our Kanata and Glacier Village subdivisions. Thank you to our residents who joined the team in their efforts and participated in getting our neighborhoods cleaned!



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