

Embracing self-sufficiency by attaining goals

Kamaleidin Abdallah has a lot to celebrate. With a goal to own a home before 2023, Abdallah purchased a house built by Northeast High School students in July.

The three-bedroom, two-bath home with a two-car detached garage at 2286 Y St. provides a safe, affordable place to live for Abdallah, and his wife and four children.

“We are so lucky to have this opportunity,” he said. “We are happy here.”

Abdallah heard about the opportunity to purchase the home through his involvement in the LHA Family Self-Sufficiency program. Through the FSS program, he worked to receive his geographic information systems technician certificate at Southeast Community College.

“This program has helped me a lot by finding a scholarship for my education and other things,” he said.

Abdallah now works as a quality control technician and is studying to earn his associate degree in design and drafting technology.

“FSS is a very nice program and helpful for those who want to develop themselves by doing some kind of education,” he said.

The 2021-22 house to be built by students is located at 5701 Ballard Ave., and will be sold to an eligible family involved with LHA next summer. Interested LHA families can determine their eligibility to purchase the house or take advantage of a lease-to-purchase contract by contacting Susan Tatum at SusanT@L-housing.com.



Kamaleidin Abdallah and his wife, Mahasin, with their children, Khalid, Alkhansa, Shayma and Mohammed



Kuszak, new family support specialist

With 12 years of case management experience, Carrie Kuszak joined Lincoln Housing Authority Aug. 9 as a family support specialist.

She helps tenants find access to food, cleaning assistance, maintaining housing, mental health resources and short-term case management. Additionally, she offers assistance relating to budgeting, domestic violence and applying for benefits. Kuszak can provide referrals and information about how to access available resources while supporting and advocating for participants and addressing current issues that may influence their housing and quality-of-life concerns. The service she provides is free, confidential and available to all LHA program participants.

“I look forward to helping others

evolve in their lives,” she said. “I hope to help them see that there is light at the end of the tunnel and to use challenges as chance to learn, grow and move forward. I want to inspire everyone to know they can have a good future, and they deserve it no matter what.”

Kuszak also is the new contact for LHA-involved tenants and landlords wanting to obtain information about rental assistance through the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program. The ERA program makes financial assistance available to low-income residents of Lincoln and Lancaster County who are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Funds may be used for housing expenses, including up to 12 months of rental assistance (encompassing back rent and future rent)



Carrie Kuszak, LHA's new family support specialist

as well as utilities such as electricity, gas, water and internet (if used for work or education).

For more information, contact Kuszak at 402-434-5530 or Carrie@L-housing.com.