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Neighborhood Housing Services: Quality is key

By KRISTINA VAKHMAN
SPECIAL TO THE HERALD, @KRISDVP

NEW BRITAIN — Revitalizing and stabilizing neighborhoods for 40 years, Neighborhood Housing Services of New Britain Inc. works to ensure that everyone, especially those whose income falls on the lower end of spectrum, is provided excellent, affordable housing, according to Executive Director John Kukulka.

“We don’t believe in housing that’s substandard. We believe that everyone is entitled to good-quality housing,” Kukulka said. “Housing is a fundamental need. It’s a right as far as I’m concerned.”

NHSNB may not be affiliated with the city of New Britain, but that doesn’t stop it from building and providing affordable housing to those who earn 80 percent or less of the median income. It also offers counseling, landlord workshops and financial fitness.

“Not a lot of people provide affordable housing. We build and provide affordable housing. That’s our mandate,”

“We don’t believe in housing that’s substandard. We believe that everyone is entitled to good-quality housing.”

JOHN KUKULKA
Executive director, Neighborhood Housing Services of New Britain

Kukulka stated.

Recently, NHSNB has built two new multifamily houses on Beaver Street and plans to build more, with real estate to go on sale in two or three months. Kukulka also stated that NHSNB’s counselors are “constantly training” and are “constantly current on the latest information” on closure prevention and preclosures, among other things, in English and in Spanish.

Additionally, Kukulka said

that NHSNB strives to have a large presence in Central Connecticut’s and the Greater Hartford region’s communities. That is why the NHSNB even has interns from New Britain’s own Central Connecticut State University and other local colleges; Kukulka is a CCSU alum-nus himself.

Everything NHSNB does is done to keep the housing affordable and its residents at ease. Kukulka stressed again that this is because everyone should have a roof over their head.

“We provide housing to people that is far more efficient than market-rate properties so it allows the tenants and the homeowners to have a lower operating cost,” Kukulka explained. “You should have decent housing and that’s not something that’s negotiable.”

Neighborhood Housing Services of New Britain Inc. is located at 223 Broad St., New Britain.

For more information, visit www.nhsnb.org or call 860-224-2433.



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