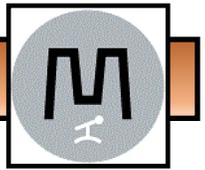


City Council Message



March 2019



Jim Brass

This month we would like to highlight NeighborWorks in Murray. Murray made the decision to partner with NeighborWorks of Salt Lake to open an office in Murray. The funding comes from one of our Redevelopment project areas low income housing requirement. In a project area, 20% of the tax increment generated must go to low income housing. We felt we could best use that money by setting up a fund to help the elderly maintain their homes, or the young to get into their first home. To manage that fund, we contracted with NeighborWorks.

NeighborWorks has a long history of “Revitalizing Neighborhoods house by house, block by block, and neighbor by neighbor”. They do this in three ways.

First, they can provide assistance in purchasing a home. NeighborWorks can provide down payment assistance loans. A new home owner can get LIFT down payment assistance loan of up to \$15,000.00. They also have Down Payment / Closing cost Assistance Loans of up to \$5000.00. To qualify for the LIFT loan your income can be 120% of Median Income and below. To qualify for the Down Payment / Closing Cost loan, you need to be 80% of the median income or below. Both loans are forgivable.

Second, if you are in your home, and are on a fixed income, or your income is 80% or less than the median income, you can get a Home Improvement Loan. Typical uses for these loans are for energy efficiency improvements, like new doors, wall or attic insulation, replacing heating or cooling units for a more efficient model, or helping to cut water use. They also loan for critical repairs such as Furnace, roof leaks, foundation problems, windows, or plumbing and electrical. Terms are flexible and based on your ability to repay the loan.

Finally, NeighborWorks also provides opportunities for volunteer organizations to get involved. Every August they hold their Paint Your Heart Out event. Since 1985 they have painted over 823 homes for the elderly, disabled, veterans, or those on limited income. It is amazing to see the reaction of homeowners when they see their home newly painted. It makes them feel like a valued part of their community. If you would like to be involved in an event, they take applications from individuals or teams. Just send an email to jasmnew@nwsaltlake.org. Right now NeighborWorks is gearing up for the 34th Annual Paint Your Heart out event on Saturday, August 10, 2019. Their goal is to paint 15 homes in the valley. Go to their website at www.nwsaltlake.org, and fill out the form if you would like to recommend someone. If you are a homeowner that is a veteran, have a disability, or have a limited income, you can apply too.

Along with the financial assistance, NeighborWorks also provides Homebuyer Education Classes, and also expert guidance for home improvements. In Murray, NeighborWorks is located at 4843 Poplar Street. They would love to have you drop by and talk to them. They also purchase home to rehabilitate and then sell at favorable rates, so if you are in the market please stop by. This has been a wonderful partnership for Murray City, and our citizens, so if you need there help, do not hesitate to pay them a visit.