

# THE FOUNDATION

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FAMICOS FOUNDATION

famicos  
FOUNDATION

50<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary

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## NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH

Prevention is Key to a Strong & Healthy Community



A Hough resident receives a "Got the Vax" t-shirt from Tiffany Stately (Cleveland MOTTEP) after getting his COVID-19 booster shot at a Famicos pop-up clinic (November 2021).

In November, the **Cleveland Department of Public Health** in partnership with researchers at **Case Western Reserve University** made COVID data available by zip code. The map serves as a stark reminder of the inequities that exist between Cleveland's different neighborhoods. Hough, and a bit of Glenville, in the 44106 zip code has the highest number of COVID deaths for its population size. While other zip codes are starting to see their number of new COVID cases drop, Hough's numbers are still rising. This trend follows other health inequities in Hough, most notably a higher infant mortality rate and higher lead levels in children under six compared to other neighborhoods in Cleveland. "We are at the two-year mark in the COVID-19 global pandemic. The disparity we see with higher COVID-19 deaths in our community is a reminder, that we are combating more than just a virus," said new **Ward 7 Councilwoman Stephanie Howse**, "We have to collectively work to address the social determinants of health, while staying focused on removing barriers to access COVID-19 vaccines and healthcare providers that can answer questions and concerns for our neighbors." Across the City as a whole, nearly half of COVID deaths are among the African American population. The surest way to protect yourself from severe COVID symptoms and death is to get vaccinated.

*Continued on page 3...*

## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



Executive Director John Anoliefo & Board President Laura Junglas (Sept 2021)

Dear friends,

After a delay of two years, Famicos Foundation finally celebrated our Golden Anniversary with a grand event last October. We were pleased to honor these award winners who were pivotal to our history: **Jim & Barbara Williams, Dr. Robert Wolf, Robert & Irene Burkhardt, Richard & Jeanne Weaver, Fatima Family Center** and the **Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine**. We were able to have the celebration and reunion at the very same place on Quimby Ave where our foundress **Sr Henrietta Gorris, CSA** lived and where the very first house Famicos ever built was (and is still standing). Celebrating our history renewed the focus of our mission. Now, we write the next decades of Famicos history with daily responses to the ongoing effects of COVID and the barriers caused by decades of systemic racism and generational poverty.

We are thrilled to be continuing our current services while expanding some programs to widen our reach and assist even more people. Funding from the **City of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, NeighborWorks America**, and other foundations and donors will support our efforts to prevent eviction and cultivate home ownership (generational wealth). We have grown our **Homeownership Resource Center (HRC)** staff in order to provide more homeownership education and financial counseling as well as rental assistance. Watch our website and social media for announcements on when rental assistance funds will become available at Famicos!

In service,  
John O. Anoliefo, Executive Director



Famicos foundress Sr Henrietta Gorris with the Norman Family outside the very first house Famicos ever built (1973).

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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John O. Anoliefo, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Famicos Board Chair Laura Junglas presents the Heritage Award to Irene Burkhardt and her daughter Joan Whitely (October 2021).



# NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH

*Continued from cover...*



Famicos senior residents, along with Maintenance Tech Anthony Cornett, register to get their booster vaccines at a pop-up clinic at Famicos' Main Office (January 2022). The clinic was offered in partnership with the Ohio National Guard and the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging.

Since March 2021, Famicos has facilitated almost 900 vaccines in the African American and Asian communities in Cleveland. Famicos has received funding from the **CDC Foundation** and the **Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)** for our vaccine efforts. Famicos has partnered with organizations like **Case Western Reserve University** and the **Cuyahoga Department of Public Health** to host pop-up vaccine clinics in Glenville and Hough. We have also partnered with fellow CDC Foundation grantees **Asian Services in Action (ASIA)** and the **Cleveland Minority Organ and Tissue Transplant Education Program (MOTTEP)** to further our reach. "ASIA did some translations for our vaccine video series and we always have MOTTEP's vaccine ambassadors at our clinics to answer any questions people might have about the vaccine," said Director of Marketing Tara Mowery. Get your shot at an upcoming vaccine clinic or call our COVID hotline at **(216) 510-3019** to schedule a free Uber ride to get your shot.

**(216) 510-3019**  
COVID HOTLINE

## POP-UP VACCINE CLINICS

MONDAY FEBRUARY 21, 10:00 AM  
UNIVERSITY TOWER APARTMENTS  
1575 EAST BLVD

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 22, 11:00 AM  
GLENHAVEN APARTMENTS  
9380 ST CLAIR AVE

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 22, 12:30 PM  
STEEPLECHASE APARTMENTS  
661 E 103 ST

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 24, 10:00 AM  
HOUGH MULTIPURPOSE CENTER  
8555 HOUGH AVE

MONDAY MARCH 21, 10:00 AM  
NORA  
1400 E 55 ST

1ST SHOTS, 2ND SHOTS, AND BOOSTERS

# STAFF SPOTLIGHT

## Candice Wood



Candice Wood, the new manager of the Famicos Homeownership Resource Center (December 2021).

In 2020, Famicos Foundation started a new line of business, **Homeownership Resource Center (HRC)**. Candice Wood joined Famicos in May 2021 as Manager of the HRC. With over 20 years as a licensed realtor, Candice is also a HUD-certified Housing Counselor and Mortgage Loan Originator. The HRC assists clients on their path to homeownership by providing homebuyer education and counseling. HRC also provides financial education, classes on basic home maintenance, and assistance to people in emergency housing situations such as foreclosure and eviction.

Candice's goal for the Homeownership Resource Center is for it to evolve into a comprehensive housing resource for the community. "Everyone deserves an opportunity to become a homeowner and to be provided support and education along their journey," she says. Expanding the capabilities of HRC, Famicos recently hired additional staff with experience in providing homeownership counseling. Keith Davis and Jason Jackson will be joining on as Homeownership Counselors, while Lisette Lopez will be joining as the Program & Intake Specialist for HRC. Famicos Foundation has also been awarded several grants by the **City of Cleveland**, **NeighborWorks America**, and **Cuyahoga County** that will be used for housing stability, tech upgrades, and finalizing HUD certification for the organization. "We're excited to be able to expand the services of HRC county-wide!"



## Ready for Tax season?

Famicos Foundation's Tax lab offers free tax preparation and financial coaching.

Call 216-791-6476 ext. 244 to book an appointment.



[refundohio.org](https://refundohio.org)



# SANTA SENDS TOYS TO HOUGH

with the help of Famicos elves



Youth Development Manager Audrey Stubbs (R) with youth at Park Village (December 2021).

Excitement fills the air as children at Famicos' Park Village Apartments enter the community center on a cold December morning. They select items from the table and a bag full of toys to be opened on Christmas. Famicos' annual Christmas Toy Giveaway has taken place for years. The giveaway allows children the opportunity to receive Christmas gifts, who might not get any otherwise. The children range in age from toddlers all the way through teenagers. The toys and winter coats are provided through **Toys for Tots, Shoes and Clothes 4 Kids, the Cleveland Police Foundation**, and private donors. We especially want to thank Dick Clough of the Police Foundation for making this year's event so special. This year, Famicos received 3,300 toys and 100 winter coats. Famicos staff and volunteers had to quickly categorize the toys,

put them into gift bags and deliver them. This year presents were distributed at two apartment buildings and to families throughout Glenville and Hough.

The annual Christmas Toy Giveaway is organized by the **Community Building and Engagement Department (CB&E)** at Famicos. In years past, the Toy Giveaway included a Christmas party as well, where children would get a special visit from Santa Claus. With the pandemic, CB&E has had to change that aspect of the event, but their dedication to providing children with Christmas gifts has remained. CB&E Director Erica Burnett said, "The most rewarding part is seeing the look on the children's faces and providing for those who need it."



Lead poisoning from old paint is the primary source of elevated blood lead levels in children. Children under the age of six are at risk of developing cognitive health effects even at low blood lead levels.

If you and your family live in or rent a home built before 1978, you may qualify for Lead Safe assistance funding.

Contact Tellewanda Moore at 216-791-7476 ext. 275 or [tmoore@famicos.org](mailto:tmoore@famicos.org) for more information.



Residents who qualify, can receive up to \$600 in FREE paint and supplies with the City of Cleveland Exterior Paint program

Contact Famicos at 216-791-6476 ext. 224 for assistance.

# PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

## Digital Inclusion for Seniors



Famicos resident Patricia Hinton holds up her new tablet (Dec. 2021).

A digital divide runs through Cleveland. It has existed in our communities, our neighborhoods, and our schools for decades. As the world becomes increasingly more digital, bridging the gap has become critical. Shabreese Murphy knows this barrier well and is passionate about helping others to bridge this divide. Shabreese is the new Neighbor to Neighbor Community Engagement Specialist at Famicos Foundation. **Neighbor to Neighbor** is a door-to-door canvassing program with a goal of building trust and developing relationships with community residents around digital access, literacy and other quality of life issues. Shabreese has been recruiting and training community ambassadors, and working to connect residents with resources.

The Neighbor to Neighbor program is sponsored by the **Rocket Mortgage, Cleveland Neighborhood**

**Progress**, and the **Cleveland Foundation**. Famicos' broader Digital Inclusion program is also funded by **OCCH, Huntington Bank, the McGregor Foundation, the Sam J. Frankino Foundation, and the Fred A. Lennon Charitable Trust**. Famicos is offering classes to senior residents to learn how to use tablets. The students keep the tablets after they complete the class. "We have become a digital society and it is important that all individuals are able to participate in accessing information and communication technologies," said Shabreese. "The less educated, individuals with lower incomes, seniors, and persons with disabilities are some of the least likely to participate in our digital society. Technology should be accessible and affordable to all, especially these vulnerable populations. Making sure underserved and disadvantaged populations have access to affordable internet, devices, and digital literacy skills training will help to bridge the digital divide."

Seniors Mary Morris and Patricia Hinton participated in a recent class and received tablets. Morris said she took the class due to the increasing reliance on tech in society. "I needed a little more experience with computers. Things are going to be more digital now." Morris shared she plans to use what she learned during the class to manage her prescriptions, social security, and is looking forward to playing Wheel of Fortune on her new tablet.



# NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

L to R: Ambassador Theresa Peeple, Community Engagement Specialist Shabreese Murphy, Ambassador Grace Brookins, and Cleveland Neighborhood Progress Manager of Organizing and Community Engagement Lindsay Wheeler.



# SHOP SMALL. SHOP LOCAL.

## Invest in your Neighborhood

### #ShopSmallShopLocal

Celebrate and support the unique small businesses in our neighborhoods.

When you shop local, your money stays local. For every one dollar you spend at a local small business, 68 cents stays in that local neighborhood. Invest in your own community and support someone's lifelong dream at the same time.

### GRAB SOME GRUB

Eat where the locals eat! Check out these local eateries and help a minority-owned small business make it through the pandemic. All offer take-out.

### IN STYLE

Or get your style on at these local favorites!

#### 105 Grill

*Pub Grub*

901 E 105 St  
(216) 331-1991



#### China House II

*Chinese*

10571 St Clair Ave  
(216) 451-8888

#### Diner on 55<sup>th</sup>

*Diner*

1328 E 55<sup>th</sup> St  
(216) 417-8001

#### Goldhorn Brewery

*Craft Beer*

1361 E 55<sup>th</sup> St  
(216) 465-1352

#### Latino Taste to Go

*Puerto Rican*

7412 St Clair Ave  
(216) 862-8100



#### Shay's Restaurant

*Breakfast*

4007 St Clair Ave  
(216) 431-6339

#### Angela's Restaurant

*Diner*

7121 St Clair Ave  
(216) 881-1020



#### Cleveland Cold Brew

*Coffee & Sandwiches*

1400 E 105 St  
(216) 820-0550

#### Empress Taytu

*Ethiopian, Vegan*

6125 St Clair Ave  
(216) 391-9400



#### Kafela Cafe

*Local Coffee Shop*

6710 St Clair Ave  
(216) 862-9603



#### Marie's Restaurant

*German*

4502 St Clair Ave  
(216) 361-1816

#### Vitamin Kandie

*Cafe, Vegan*

1400 E 105 St  
(440) 373-7618



#### Big Daddy's Too

*Sandwiches*

1206 E 105 St  
(216) 421-1313

#### Deon's Restaurant

*Burgers*

7800 Superior Ave  
(216) 458-8078



#### Floods

*Urban Seafood*

7903 Superior Ave  
(216) 714-5989



#### Landmark Restaurant

*Breakfast Diner*

3580 St Clair Ave  
(216) 881-5372

#### Royal Pizza

*Pizza*

7604 St Clair Ave  
(216) 431-2211



#### Z Express by

*ZanZibar*

*Soul Food*  
1400 E 105<sup>th</sup> St  
(216) 242-6021

#### All the King's Men

*Barber shop*

9111 St Clair Ave  
(216) 801-2892

#### Cyclebreakers

*Barber shop*

10533 St Clair Ave  
(216) 760-3020

#### Beauty 4 U

*Beauty supply store*

3425 Payne  
(216) 432-0715

#### He Loves Curves

*Boutique*

3303 Superior Ave  
(216) 272-7468

#### Premier Barber Lounge

*Barber shop*

1400 E 105 St  
(216) 526-9149

#### TJ's Barbershop

*Barber shop*

1210 E 105 St  
(440) 429-3736

# AVAILABLE TO RENT

## FOR FAMILIES

### PARK VILLAGE APARTMENTS

Onsite washers & dryers, onsite parking, dishwasher, 24-hour security, community room, outdoor children's play area, raised garden beds, close to the medical center. HUD housing, child benefit and assistance programs, social services assistance.

**2, 3, or 4 bedroom units**



9221 Hough Ave, Cleveland

## FOR SENIORS & DISABLED

### STEEPLECHASE APARTMENTS



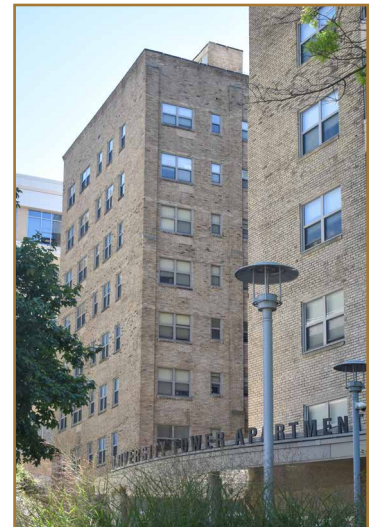
661 E 103<sup>rd</sup> St, Cleveland

Senior (55+) community. Appliances included, onsite parking, laundry on every floor, community room, line dancing classes. Close to shopping. Group transportation offered.

**2 bedroom units (850 sq ft)**

### UNIVERSITY TOWER APARTMENTS

Senior adult (62+) and disability (55+) independent living. ADA-compliant units. Reserved parking & controlled access. Courtyard, hair salon, community room, fitness center, computer room, library, and laundry all onsite. Group activities & transportation offered. Very close to VA Hospital.



1575 East Blvd, Cleveland

**famicos**  
FOUNDATION

*Building Homes. Restoring Hope.*

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