



**News and Update November 2022**  
**Annual MVUT General Membership Meeting**  
**Tuesday Nov 29 @ 7:00PM**  
**MVUT OFFICE, 2 Gramatan Avenue – Suite 304**

It's been a while since we've mailed to everyone, but it's not because of a lack of activity on our part. Things in fact have been quite busy on various fronts.

**Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP)**

Our **HPP** has been working overtime to keep people in their homes and out of the costly emergency shelter system. We continue to fight eviction cases and we are still processing loads of **Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)** applications. In the last few months we've stopped over 35 evictions; processed over 70 **ERAP** applications and worked with the City of Mt. Vernon processing potential recipients in the City's "**Level Up**" Program, whereby some lucky families will be receiving \$6,000.00 over a year to help them really stabilize their housing. This had a short window to propose potential recipients, who will ultimately be drawn via a lottery. **MVUT** assisted in processing 18 potential recipients.

**Tenant Action Project (TAP)**

This is our building organization campaign. For the last few years as a result of the pandemic, there had been very little building organizing as tenants, as most everyone, were reluctant to participate in meetings with others. This put a real stop in MVUT holding tenant building organizing meetings. Things are starting to open up a bit and we're beginning organizing campaigns or following up with already established tenant associations in the following buildings:

- 229 So. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue    - 150 So. Fifth Avenue    - 138 So. Fifth Avenue    - 21 West Sanford Blvd    - 20 East Third St.
- The Plaza Buildings (40 E. Sidney Avenue, 30 Park Avenue, 33 North Third Avenue and 111 North Third Avenue)

**Tenants' Rights Workshops**

With the City of Mt. Vernon (both the **Department of Planning and** and the **Department of Buildings**) we'll be organizing **Tenants' Rights Workshops** in English on Thursday, November 17 at the Doles Center, and in Spanish on Sunday, November 20 after mass at St. Mary's Church on South Terrace Avenue (see two (2) sided flyer enclosed.) Mark your calendars now!

(over)

## **Statewide Right to Counsel (RTC)**

A few of us will drive to Albany on Monday, November 21 for the "Statewide Kick-off" of the 2023 campaign to pass a "Right to Counsel" Bill (see enclosed flyer on reverse side of Annual Meeting Notice). If you'd like to join us, call MVUT (914) 699-1114

## **Furniture Sharehouse**

During the pandemic, Furniture Sharehouse eliminated client visits to the Sharehouse so that tenants could not directly pick out their own furniture. They were able to view things remotely, but it was not the same as the actual shopping experience that so many of MVUT's members had become accustomed to. Great News!! Furniture Sharehouse has re-established direct personal client visits! Yeah!! MVUT has just recently brought three (3) separate clients to the Sharehouse and we're looking forward to bringing many more in the upcoming months. If you or someone you know needs good quality, gently used furniture, please call the MVUT office. While the furniture is free there a couple of costs involved. Interested parties have to pay MVUT a \$25 referral fee as we are charged that by the Furniture Sharehouse. We drive the client up to the Furniture Sharehouse at the Westchester County Airport where a Furniture Sharehouse volunteer assists the client in selecting the furniture. For the delivery of the furniture from the Sharehouse, there are three options:

If the client has their own truck or access to a truck, they would just bring it to the Sharehouse on the date of their visit. Most tenants do not have a truck, nor access to a truck. They would then have two options:

- 1.) Pay \$75 for "curbside delivery" at their home Or
- 2.) Pay \$150 for "Full Delivery" where the drivers from Furniture Sharehouse bring the furniture directly into the client's apartment

To get furniture from the Furniture Sharehouse you must go through a "member organization" such as MVUT. If you're interested call MVUT at (914) 699-1114

## **MVUT Annual Meeting**

MVUT normally holds its Annual Meeting on the first Tuesday of October. However that date conflicted with the annual conference for the Neighborhood Preservation Program (NPP) which is MVUT's biggest funding source. Further, Dennis developed Covid-19 the first week of October and had been out of the office for a couple of weeks. Accordingly we'll be holding the Annual Meeting on Tuesday November 29 (see copy of flyer enclosed). Feel free to copy and encourage tenants in your building to attend. We're doing a lot for tenants, we will do even more!

---

To help us to do even more, your financial contribution is essential. Please make a generous donation now!

Yes, I want to help MVUT BECOME EVEN STRONGER. Enclosed find my contribution of

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25    \_\_\_\_\_ \$50    \_\_\_\_\_ \$100    \_\_\_\_\_ \$200    \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_