

### PRESIDENTS CORNER

I hope everyone has had a smooth transition into the spring semester. I know I am hoping for some snow this winter, but I am also ready for it to be warm again. The NCHO Executive Board had an awesome first virtual meeting in December and I am excited for all the great things to come this year. We have our first in-person meeting in early February where we will start to plan our calendar for the year and begin work on our 2025-2030 Strategic Plan. If you are attending SEAHO 2024, I encourage you to join us at the North Carolina State meeting on Wednesday, February 28th at 9am to learn more about upcoming opportunities you can take advantage of such as attending events, joining committees, or even applying for a role on the Executive Board. We will also be sending out these upcoming opportunities through our listserv. I leave you with this New Year's quote that really stood out to me as I think about what the future holds.

**"Life's not about expecting, hoping and wishing, it's about doing, being and becoming."**  
—Mike Dooley



### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Professional Development Coordinator, Savannah Matherly, is excited to recruit folks to serve on their Professional Development Committee! Please see below for what you could expect serving in this capacity:

- Meet twice a month via Zoom for committee meetings
- Serve on a subcommittee project related to one of the below:
  - The Nest newsletter professional development content
  - NCHO Podcast
  - Summer DEI Book Club
  - Ongoing professional development workshops/resources

If you are interested, please email Savannah at [smather@ncsu.edu](mailto:smather@ncsu.edu).



Are you interested in submitting an article or flyer for our next edition of *The Nest* this spring? This is the place for you! To submit, please email [communications@ncho.org](mailto:communications@ncho.org) with your article/flyer.

We look forward to featuring your work in our newsletter!



THE NCHO PODCAST PROVIDES HOUSING PROFESSIONALS WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR NETWORKING, DISCUSSION, AND IDEATION ABOUT TOPICS RELATED TO THE INDUSTRY. EACH EPISODE FEATURES NEW GUEST SPEAKERS WHO WILL ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT RECENT TOPICS. CHECK OUT OUR FIRST TWO EPISODES ON OUR WEBSITE OR ON SPOTIFY!

### SUBMIT YOUR IDEAS FOR OUR NEXT PODCAST!

The NCHO Podcast provides housing professionals with opportunities for networking, discussion, and ideation about topics related to the industry. Each episode features new guest speakers who will answer your questions about recent topics. Check out our first two episodes on our website or on Spotify! Have an idea for a new episode or want to submit your questions for the next episode's guests? Submit your ideas to the form below or reach out to Professional Development Coordinator, Savannah Matherly, at [smather@ncsu.edu](mailto:smather@ncsu.edu)!

[SUBMIT HERE](#)

### SUBMIT YOUR QUESTIONS ON THE ART OF MANAGING UP

For our next NCHO Podcast episode, we will be hosting the Best of NCHO presentation, The Art of Managing Up, by Carrie Barnhart and Becca Gillison. We are hoping to select 5-7 questions to ask our guests, so please submit questions you would like them to answer!

[SUBMIT HERE](#)



### Navigating the Waves of SEAHO

As we gear up for the upcoming conference, it's essential to make the most out of this enriching experience. To ensure you navigate the event seamlessly and leave with valuable insights, here are some tips to guide you on your conference journey.

- 1. Set Your Goals & Assess Your Needs:**  
Before diving into the conference frenzy, take a moment to reflect on what you want to achieve. Whether it's gaining industry knowledge, networking with professionals, or discovering new trends, defining your goals will give your conference experience direction. Establish clear objectives to make the most of your time at the event.
- 2. Select Sessions Strategically:**  
With a plethora of sessions and workshops available, it's crucial to choose wisely. Review the conference agenda and select sessions that align with your goals. Prioritize topics that will enhance your knowledge and skills. Remember, quality over quantity – focus on sessions that will have a meaningful impact on your professional journey.
- 3. Embrace the Unexpected:**  
While planning is essential, leave room for serendipity. Sometimes, the most valuable insights and connections happen unexpectedly. Attend a session on a whim or strike up a conversation with someone you didn't plan to meet. Be open to new ideas and experiences – you never know where inspiration may strike.

In conclusion, approaching the conference with a strategic mindset will elevate your experience and make it truly worthwhile. Set your goals, choose sessions wisely, network with purpose, and, most importantly, have fun! We look forward to seeing you at the conference and making it an enriching and enjoyable experience for all.

Happy conferencing!  
  
—Ivy Ferreira  
Communications Coordinator



### INCREASING PROGRAM CREATIVITY

When your student staff member submits their program idea, you may tend to see similar ideas repeated over and over again. One way to encourage your student staff to think outside of the box is by having them use websites like NationalToday.com to spark inspiration. You will be shocked to see the variety of holidays that exist, some that may even surprise you to know that there is even a holiday for that. This website can be a great jumping off point and staff can then build the program from there. For example, February 11th is International Day of Women and Girls in Science. Your student staff member could decide to a passive program that highlights the achievements women and girls have made in science. Another idea could be hosting an active program where residents complete a simple science project and there are discussions about the achievement of women and girls in science. Program planning does not have to be as scary as it may seem. Student staff truly just need a point of inspiration, and the creative ideas will soon start pouring out.

– Erin Schneller

### STUDENT LEADERSHIP DRIVE-IN

Join us at Methodist University for the Student Leadership Drive-In on Saturday, March 23rd, 2024.

The Registration price is \$50/person until January 31, 2024. Late registration opens on February 1st. Visit our Eventbrite page to sign your school up!

Looking for an opportunity to present the great work happening on your campus? Program Proposals are due February 1st, 2024 and we are looking forward to the opportunity to learn from one another in these sessions. The categories are build skills, coaching, taking it to the next level and handling fouls. Learn more about the categories and how to submit your proposal by visiting the NCHO Website.

