

Direct To You



Friday
2/4/22

Patricia Wells, OHA Executive Director



Good Afternoon OHA Family

I am sending everyone a “Friday thank you” for another strong week of serving the OHA Community!

I just looked at the calendar and realized January is already over. Can you believe that? It feels like just the blink of an eye, which reminds me of how quickly opportunity can slip through our fingers. It is in that spirit that I am excited to share information about several things on the horizon around OHA. However, before we look ahead, I would like to look back one last time at 2021...

Last year we all adapted in order to overcome new struggles; we persevered as we resolved ongoing challenges; and throughout the year, we celebrated hard-won successes that improve the lives of those we serve. Please enjoy a short slide presentation that captures and celebrates just a small sample of our exceptional work and highlights the milestones we reached as a team. You should see some familiar faces—look for yourself or your team! Together, we can meet the challenges and opportunities of the year ahead with the same spirit of optimism and service as we continue to give back to our families and our community.

In the last **Direct to You**, we launched the TaskHuman app, a new benefit for OHA employees and their spouses/domestic partners. Next week we will be offering tutorials to walk you through this exciting service at several different times to make sure you all have a chance to understand the many features and resources available to you. As I've been scrolling through the app, I've come across many useful providers to assist me with my personal goals. I'm confident you will too.

Also below, be sure to read about our new Deputy Chief of Police, Alan Love; and our upcoming celebration of Valentine's Day, *Home is Where the Heart Is*, which includes a special treat available to all OHA employees who submit a request, plus a chance to win a great prize.

We also celebrate heritage for so many of the OHA family:

In recognition of Black History Month, I would like to encourage all staff to learn more about the achievements and contributions of African Americans.

This week we also began the celebration of Lunar New Year which began on February 1, launching the “Year of the Tiger.” For the OHA families enjoying festivities the next few weeks, “Happy Lunar New Year!”

Over the course of the year, we will make every effort to acknowledge and celebrate the accomplishments of all cultures in our diverse workforce. If you would like to share some of your family traditions, please submit your story in the Direct From Me, and we can highlight them in the DTY!

Have a great weekend!

Patricia



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Love is in the Air!

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, now is the time to show much love to OHA employees. As a thank you for being a valued member of the OHA family, please enjoy a special treat—a \$5 gift card which you can redeem for coffee, tea, hot chocolate, a healthy snack or anything else at Starbucks!

To receive your \$5 Starbucks gift card, simply provide your name and an email for electronic delivery using the entry form. You may use either your OHA email or a personal email address. Physical gift cards will not be provided to minimize personal contact.



There is also a contest for one lucky OHA employee to win an awesome prize. As part of our outreach efforts in the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program, we are giving new families a welcome kit that contains household cleaning supplies, dishes, pots/pans, and other items that will help set them up for success in their new homes. In recognition of the awesome job being done by our EHV team (LH, OPO, FCP, IT, FIN and EO) to get more Oakland families housed, we are giving away one of the welcome kits to a lucky OHA staff member through a random drawing of all entries received in the Home is Where the Heart Is contest.

In order to win the kit you have to be entered into the contest. You can enter several ways.

Submit a Starbucks request using the electronic entry form (Google Doc) as described above. Everyone who submits a Starbucks request is automatically entered into the contest for the prize.

Answer one of the optional questions on the entry form. If you answer one of the questions and submit it, you get one extra entry into the contest. Answering more than one question does not get you extra entries, but we'd love to know your answers.

Submit a **Direct From Me** with ideas about something we could improve at OHA. If you submit an idea, question or comment you get one extra entry into the contest.

Each employee could get up to a maximum of 3 entries into the contest. If you do not submit your request for a Starbucks gift card you will not receive one; and you must use at least one of the three methods to be entered and have a chance to win the prize. **Starbucks requests and contest entries must be completed by Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 5:00pm.**

Winners will be selected by a randomized drawing and announced in a February 14, edition of **Direct To You!**

 These activities are coordinated for you by the OHA Culture Committee.

Speaking of Love in the Air...



After a national search, **Alan Love** recently joined OHA as our new Deputy Police Chief. Love began his law enforcement career as a Police Explorer with the San Ramon Police Department in 1990. He is a veteran of the United States Army and a graduate of the 109th Alameda County Basic Police Academy in 2000. During his career, Alan has worked as a Crime Scene Investigator, Recruit Training Officer, Field Training Officer, SWAT Operator and Team Leader, Defensive Tactics Instructor, and a member of the Alameda County Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement Task Force. He is a graduate of the Sherman Block Supervisory Leadership Academy class 308. He has an Associate's Degree from Diablo Valley College, a Bachelor's Degree from California State University, Long Beach, and a Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership from Columbia Southern University.

Love's leadership experience covers many areas including Law Enforcement Operations, Budget, Administration, Communications, Fleet, Personnel and Training, Professional Standards, and Property and Evidence. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy Session 278 and has over 20 years of East Bay law enforcement experience.

Let's all welcome Deputy Alan Love to the OHA family.

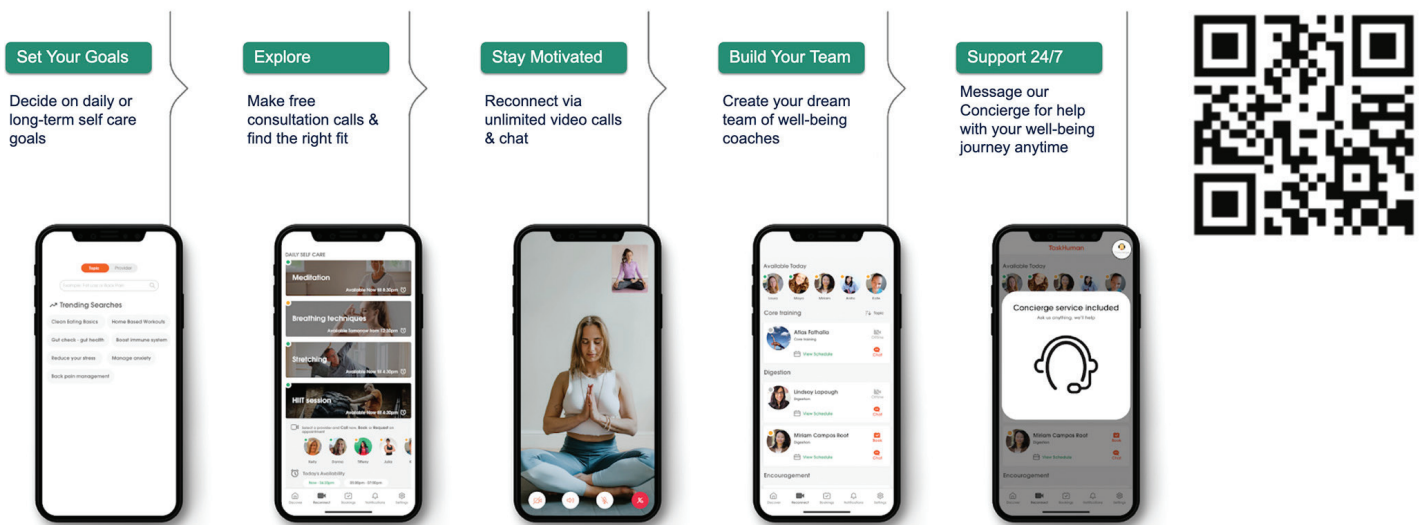


If you haven't already downloaded and started using the TaskHuman app, you're missing out on a wonderful employee benefit that offers a wealth of resources to help with many of your goals and household needs. To make it even easier, OHA will host several tutorial sessions where you will get live assistance from a TaskHuman professional.

Early next week the Human Resources department will send out dates and times of the training sessions along with virtual login information. You will be able to simply log into the short sessions and learn all about what TaskHuman has to offer.

Remember the service is free and confidential.

How TaskHuman works:



Please join upcoming demo sessions to learn about the app and get your questions answered!

Direct From Me

Have an idea to save time or money? Figured out a way to make work a little easier and more efficient? Or perhaps you want to share your team's success with the entire agency? Well, now it's easier than ever to share your ideas! No matter what's on your mind... **Direct From Me** is the easy way to have your ideas delivered to OHA's Executive Director, Patricia Wells.



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REMEMBER: if you have reasonable suspicion that you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 or if you are experiencing symptoms of fever (100.4 Fahrenheit or higher), coughing, or shortness of breath, do not report to work. Immediately contact your primary care provider and then your supervisor for instructions on what you need to do next. If you have any questions regarding your schedule, please contact your supervisor or Director. If you have questions in regards to pay or leave time, please contact Human Resources at (510) 874-1575.