



September 2020

SERCulator

Official publication of
SERC-NAHRO
Southeastern Regional Council

Association Scholarship Winners

pg 4

Building Leaders On and Off the Court

Laurel HA, MS - pg 14

Employment Program Empowers Residents

Bowling Green HA, KY - pg 12

Nashville Songwriters Collaborate with Students

Trenton HA, TN - pg 20

Serving in the New Normal

Charleston-Kanawha HA, WV - pg 24

New HUD EnVision Center

Bristol RHA, VA - pg 22

PROVEN.

LEADER.

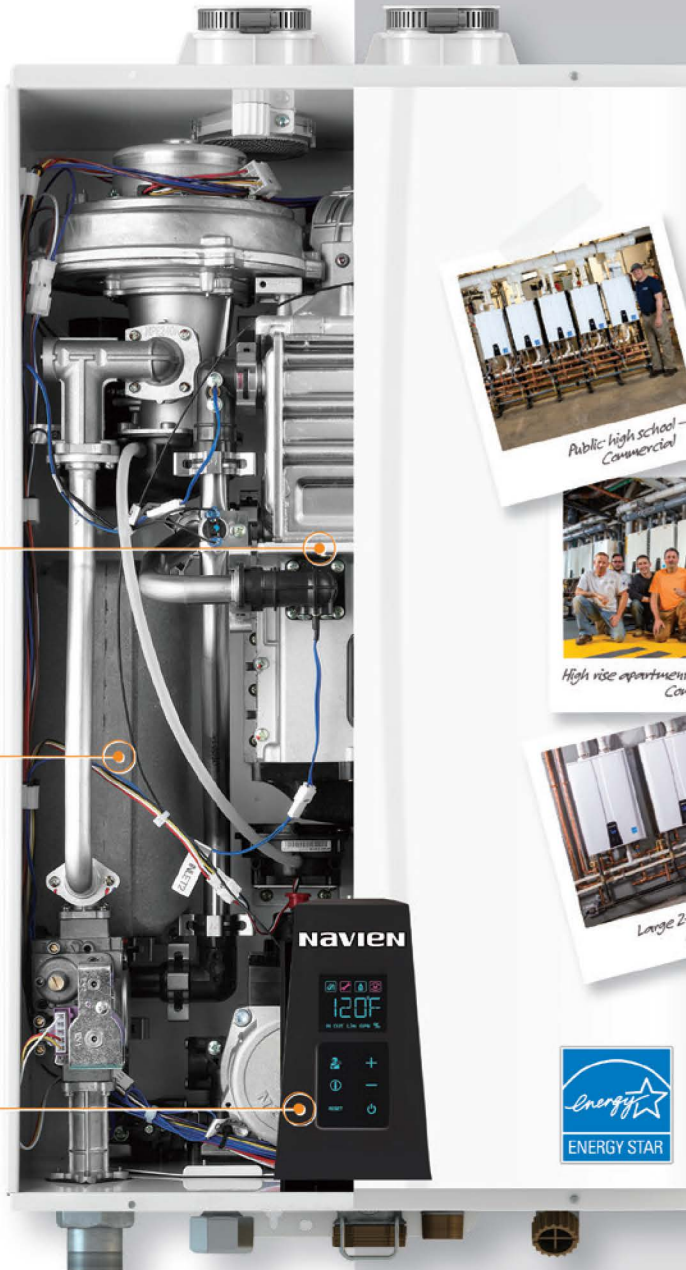
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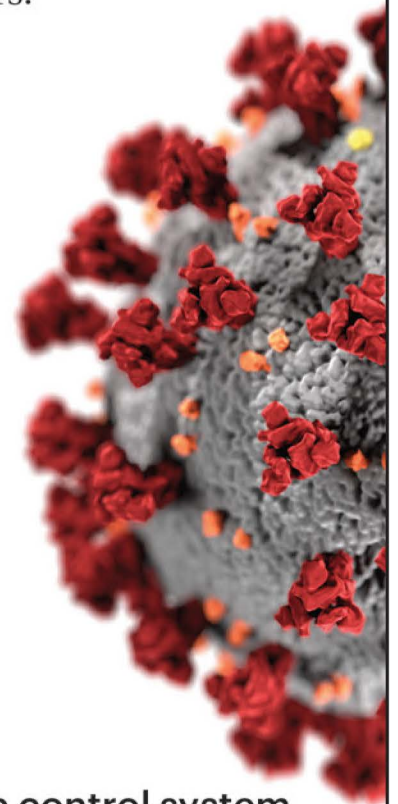
At Slade, we have taken steps in the process of protecting our customers and their staff, clients, and other stakeholders by using disinfectants with demonstrated effectiveness in killing coronavirus and similar viruses. We clean areas such as restrooms, locker rooms, touchpoints, and other areas of your facility. We are knowledgeable of the most up-to-date safety, infection control, and cleaning protocols recommended by the EPA, CDC, ISSA, and OSHA, and we are applying these protocols to other proven methodologies for the benefit of our clients and their stakeholders.

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- Covid 19 Detection Kit
- Disinfectant





On the cover

During COVID-19, Housers still provide education and enrichment for their residents. Kobie Traylor, Ashland Housing Authority 2020 AAHRA Scholarship Recipient.

Photo Courtesy of Ashland Housing Authority, AL.

Bits & Pieces

- 7 Alabama
- 9 Florida
- 11 Georgia
- 13 Kentucky
- 15 Mississippi
- 17 North Carolina
- 19 South Carolina
- 21 Tennessee
- 23 Virginia
- 25 West Virginia

Conferences

- 27 SERC-NAHRO

SERC Thanks Our Advertisers

- IFC* NAVIEN
- 3 SLADE, LLC
- 5 The Southern CFO LLC
- 13 Housing Benefits Plan
- 21 HAI Group
- 26 Elevate Housing Solutions
- IBC* Brooks Jeffrey Marketing

* IFC = Inside Front Cover
IBC = Inside Back Cover

Advertorial

- 28 Tips on Choosing the Right Vendor - SLADE, LLC

SERC

- 3 President's Message
- 4 Association Scholarship Winners
- 27 Legislative Update: The Elephant in the Room

SERC-Connects

- 6 **Little Free Library**
Alabama - LHA
- 8 **Resident Programs**
Florida - WHHA
- 10 **Youth Programs Make Positive Impact**
Georgia - THA
- 12 **Reach Higher Employment Program**
Kentucky - BGHA
- 14 **Building Leaders On & Off The Court**
Mississippi - LHA
- 16 **ExpoGro Program**
North Carolina - PHA
- 18 **Launching New Programs & Continuing Longstanding Services**
South Carolina - CH
- 20 **Nashville Songwriters Collaborate with Students**
Tennessee - THA
- 22 **New HUD EnVision Center**
Virginia - BRHA
- 24 **Serving in the New Normal**
West Virginia - CKHA



The SERCulator is the official quarterly publication of the Southeastern Regional Council of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (SERC-NAHRO).

Comments, suggestions, articles, features and photographs are solicited in interest of the members of SERC-NAHRO. Although all submissions are subject to approval and editing, every effort will be made to publish submissions based on available space. Photos cannot be returned.

Send Submissions Via:
SERCulator.com | 800.506.8064

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President's Message

Hello SERC Family & Friends...

As you may have heard by now the SERC-NAHRO Fall Workshop scheduled for November 8-10, 2020 at the Marriott Myrtle Beach Resort & Spa at Grande Dunes has been canceled. The Executive Committee gave this much thought but felt that it would be irresponsible for SERC to hold this event during the pandemic and potentially expose staff, residents, and commissioners.

SERC-NAHRO Fall Workshop November 8-10, 2020 has been canceled.

The Professional Development and Education & Training Committees are teaming up to offer virtual trainings.

The Executive Committee will meet virtually in September.

Professional Development & Education/Training Committees are teaming up to offer virtual trainings.

The Executive Committee will meet virtually in September.

If you have suggestions for trainings or your agency has specific needs that SERC may be able to assist, feel free to contact me at mtaylor@ckha.com.

When I wished you a Happy New Year in January and stated, "I hope we're all focused on the new opportunities this year may bring", I had no idea of what we were facing. Each of us have faced

unanticipated events and challenges this year and there is not a one size fits all approach as COVID-19 has had similar but different impacts on each community. As we transition into Fall, I can only hope there is a vaccination or cure that will enable us to return to normal operations. Until then I know everyone is busy making procedural and policy changes to ensure the safety of our communities with the use of the funds by the Cares Act. I know we all believe we are using these funds to their fullest potential, but I do urge everyone to track how these funds are being used as we know the audits will come.

I want to thank the Emerging Leaders, Chaired by Sharia Oates for promoting the "What Home Means to Me" poster contest. There was great participation and winners from five of our ten states. I believe our region will be well represented in NAHRO's National competition.

Thank you, SERC members, from the Legislative committee, led by Michael Sweet. This committee was busy promoting NAHRO's August Advocacy campaign. SERC members stepped up to the plate in writing many letters during the four week period to congressional members on topics to include: Tell Washington to Pass Additional COVID-19 Relief; Rental

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:
2021 Annual Conference
June 13-16, 2021 at the
Marriott Downtown Hotel
in Louisville, Kentucky.**

Assistance & Universal Voucher Access; Rental Assistance and increase Housing Supply; and Increase Access to Resident Services.

The Annual conference committee will soon meet to plan for next years meeting to be held at the Marriott Downtown Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky, June 13 - 16, 2021.

Lastly, we all know this is an election year, let your voice be heard---VOTE!

**ELECTION YEAR -
Let your voice be heard -
VOTE!**



I appreciate what each and everyone of you do each day to help the lives of those we serve, especially during these difficult times. ***"Be the change you want to see in the world" - Mahatma Gandhi***

Stay safe,

Mark Taylor,
SERC-NAHRO President

AAHRA Scholarship Winners

AAHRA is proud to recognize all of their 2020 Alabama Scholarship recipients.



Anna Sweet
Chickasaw HA



Dylan Simon
Mobile HA



Natalie Lynch
Mobile HA



Mckinley Williams
Albertville HA



Kobie Traylor
Ashland HA



Adriona Williamson
Opp HA



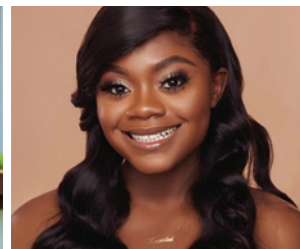
Jessielynn Pope
Opp HA



Macy Barber
Opp HA



Silas Thompson
Piedmont HA



Kearsten Prince
Tuscaloosa HA



Kylan Taylor
Tuscaloosa HA

Not Pictured: Paris Morgan, Alex City HA; Christopher Ellis, Brewton HA; Kaitlyn Bernard, Dothan HA; Brittney Mathis, Gadsden HA

TAHRA Scholarship Winners

TAHRA is proud to acknowledge all their Scholarship Recipients.

- Shayevon Blue-Craig
- Yalexis Payne

WVAHA Scholarship Winner

WVAHA is proud to acknowledge their Scholarship Recipient.

- Aubree Johnson

MAHRO Scholarship Winner

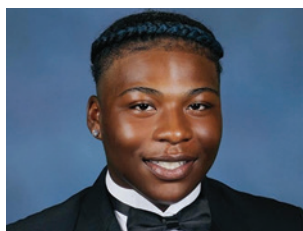
MAHRO is proud to acknowledge Katie Lynn Baker of Long Beach, MS. Katie was awarded a NAHRO National Merit Scholarship and was selected as a distinguished NAHRO-LDG Scholar.

GAHRA Scholarship Winners

GAHRA is proud to acknowledge all their Scholarship Recipients. Each will receive a \$1,000 scholarship.



Uqueen Wheeler
Augusta HA



Carlos Robinson
Dublin HA



Marcus Adams
Dublin HA

Adult Students (continuing their educational pursuits)

- Kavalin Wilson, Albany HA
- Brittany Waters, Atlanta HA
- Trevyn Gray, Americus HA
- Vivian Davis, Conyers HA

High School Students (preparing for higher education)

- Uqueen Wheeler, Augusta HA
- Carlos Robinson, Dublin HA
- Marcus Adams, Dublin HA

Not Pictured:

- Ry'vana Styles, Albany HA
- Danashia Tyson, Albany HA
- Da'Asia Ford, Americus HA
- Solomon Thorpe, Atlanta HA
- Kaija Hudson, Camilla HA
- Jaelin Wimberly, Camilla HA
- Evin Small, Claxton HA
- Fathiya Atik, Decatur HA
- Niya Thomas, McRae Helena HA
- Ivy Whitaker, Northwest Georgia HA

CCHRCO Scholarship Winners

We would like to thank all the housing authorities who participated in submitting applications for the CCHRCO scholarship program. We received fourteen applications from six housing authorities.

For the NAHRO Merit College Scholarship Program, we received three applications. Chosen to represent North Carolina was an applicant from the Housing Authority of the City of Kinston.

We are happy to announce the following CCHRCO winners for 2020...



Jamaica Bluefort
Charlotte HA
CCHRCO \$1,000



Whitney Wilson
Fayetteville Metro HA
CCHRCO \$1,000



Choma Mudenda
Greensboro HA
SERC/NAHRO \$1,500



Maria Lopez
Hickory HA
CCHRCO \$1,000



Michyla Dove
Kinston HA
CCHRCO \$1,000



Ivanya Johnson
Kinston HA
SERC/NAHRO \$1,000



Cherrick Arnold
Plymouth HA
CCHRCO \$1,000

Congratulations to all the Scholarship Winners!

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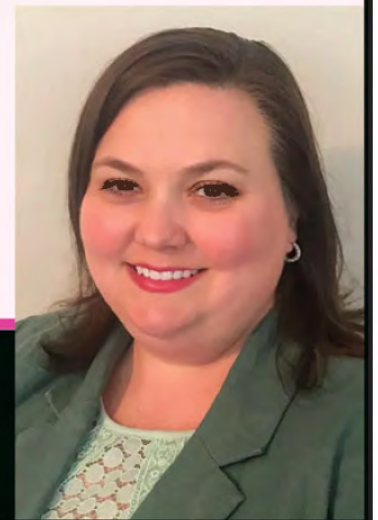


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Photos taken prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Little Free Library

Bringing the Joy of Reading to Community Youth at Lafayette Housing Authority

Studies have shown that children who have access to books are more likely to have successful reading achievements and be successful in their general educational studies.

The Lafayette Housing Authority (LHA) partnered with local church ministry, Freedom In Christ, to install a Little Free Library at the Lafayette Housing Authority's Administrative Office. Since its installation in February 2019, the Little Free Library has been a source of information and inspiration to the young residents of LHA's communities.

The Little Free Library is a national program that aims to encourage children throughout a community to enjoy the pleasure of giving, reading, and connecting with other children in the community by making books

For details on setting up a book-sharing box in your community, visit [LittleFreeLibrary.org](https://www.littlefreelibrary.org)

For more information on the Little Free Library program and details on setting up a book-sharing box in your community, visit [LittleFreeLibrary.org](https://www.littlefreelibrary.org).

Managed by the Auburn Housing Authority, Lafayette Housing Authority operates 102 PBV units in five communities throughout Lafayette, Alabama. To learn more about LHA's Little Free Library, visit <https://www.auburnhousingauth.org/news-view?id=78>



more accessible. LHA's Little Free Library book-sharing box is located in an area just outside the Administrative Office main entrance and is open to everyone.

The Little Free Library works on the honor system by encouraging children who take a book to leave a book. The goal is to always have books available and for the library to remain stocked. The community is encouraged to donate new and used books to the program.

LaFayette
Housing Authority
Managed by Auburn HA

Lafayette Housing Authority

Lafayette, AL

PH: 102

Sharon Tolbert, CEO
[AuburnHousingAuth.org](https://www.auburnhousingauth.org)



What Home Means To Me Contest Winner

- Opp Housing Authority

Chynna Carpenter placed first in the 2020 SERC What Home Means to Me Poster Contest.

“Home means a lot to me. One thing that is important about my home is my family. They mean everything to me from playing games, helping each other and having time together. We have memories together. We are a very active family from having a college football player, a basketball player, a softball player, a hardworking mama

and a pageant girl. You can walk into our home and see all the memories we have made. I love my family and my home”.

Chynna is 8 years old and attends Opp Elementary School. She is very smart and loving, as well as being a pageant girl. She loves to participate with community activities. Chynna and her sisters are the entrepreneurs of CJ’s Lemonade Stand.

Resident COVID Care Packages

- Prattville Housing Authority

While brainstorming ways to serve our residents during COVID, Prattville Housing Authority (PHA) staff thought about the difficulty they had finding basic cleaning supplies and necessities while at the store. To assist their residents PHA decided to gather supplies and assemble COVID Care Packages for all public housing residents and HCV participants.

Each of the 225 COVID Care Packages were delivered in an orange bucket containing: 2 rolls of toilet tissue, 2 rolls of paper towels, 2 masks, 1

kitchen sponge, 1 bottle of germicide or Clorox cleaner, 1 bottle of spray hand sanitizer, and 1 bottle of hand soap.

Items were sold out and not available locally, so they worked closely with one of their maintenance supply vendors and other sources to secure products by the gallon and decanted them into smaller containers.

“Our tenants have been so thankful and appreciative for the COVID Care Package Bucket. Our team was totally excited to have this opportunity to work together on this project to provide our tenants with items that are very hard to find at this time”.

- Tim Haseltine,
PHA Executive Director



Offering Residents Transportation to Local Colleges

- Dothan Housing Authority

As access to transportation is a consistent problem for residents of public housing, Dothan Housing Authority (DHA) has found a way ensure residents have access to safe, reliable, and affordable transportation.

Through a partnership with Wiregrass Transportation, DHA provides daily transportation for residents to Wallace Community College and Troy University Dothan. The Wiregrass Transit Authority is a public non-profit organization providing essential transportation services as well as tailored transportation to the public in Dothan and Houston County.

DHA’s partnership with Wiregrass provides residents an affordable transportation option to pursue their goals of higher education.

AAHRA Conference Updates

2021 Annual Conference
August 16-18
Sandestin, Florida



Although the August 2020 Annual Conference in Gulf Shores, AL was canceled due to COVID-19, there was a lot of hard work in preparing it and I would like to thank everyone who poured their time, energy and talent into attempting to make the conference a success. Thank you for your cooperation and support in this matter and please keep our theme at heart “There is No Stopping Us Now, We Are on the Move.”

- Beverly Barber, AAHRA President



Resident Programs

Benefiting Families & Impacting Futures at Winter Haven Housing Authority

My Home Library Literacy Project

Winter Haven Housing Authority (WHHA) created the "My Home Library" Family Literacy Project, as a way to address the declining reading outcomes of youth enrolled in its after-school programs, and to promote healthier reading habits between parents and children.

Created in 2014, the project is now in its sixth year of improving literacy and promoting quality family bonds. The primary focus of the project is to encourage positive family interactions and to reduce the impact that excessive television watching and other forms of media (video games and tapes) have on health and family relationships.

Bookshelves, fully stocked with reading materials for the entire household, are donated by local businesses to deserving families who, through essay competitions, explain why having a home library is important to their family. Essays are reviewed twice each year with families receiving stocked bookshelves as a result of their winning essays.

To learn more about the "My Home Library Project" visit <https://www.winterhavenhousing.com/my-home-library-project>.

Bookshelves, fully stocked with reading materials for the entire household, are donated by local businesses to deserving families who submit winning essays.

Short-Term Medical Training Program

Another beneficial WHHA program recently received an economic boost with a \$38,000 grant from the Polk County, FL Health and Human Services Division.

The grant was awarded to WHHA's Short-Term Medical Training Program as part of its Community Development Block Grant COVID-19 Public Service Funding for fiscal year 2019-2020.

The Short-Term Medical Training Program helps individuals pursue careers as Home Health Aides, Medical Technicians, and Certified Nursing Assistants. Additionally, the funding will be used to provide individuals, who through this COVID period of uncertainty, require family counseling.

The medical training and counseling programs are open to all individuals served by WHHA, and participants of its Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program.



**Winter Haven
Housing Authority**

Winter Haven, FL

PH: 164

HCV: 321

Lisa Jones Watkins

WinterHavenHousing.com



Heron Estates - Affordable & Workforce Housing

- Riviera Housing Authority

In a city where the average monthly rent is \$1,200 and a county where home prices average above \$300,000, the Riviera Beach Housing Authority (RBHA) is building affordable and workforce housing.

Phase I - Heron Estates Senior

Construction on the 101-unit, \$22 million housing site for senior citizens was completed in September in partnership with Miami-based Housing Trust Group of Florida, one of the Sunshine State's top affordable housing developers. The complex is fully occupied.

Phase II - Heron Estates Family

The project's second phase, Heron Estates Family, is set to start construction in summer 2020. The 79-unit, \$18 million project is to be workforce housing for families and will be located on the same 15-acre site, which had been the original home of the Ivey Green Village public housing complex.

Ivey Green was demolished between 2005 and 2008 following hurricane storm damage. It was constructed in 1976, the city's last and only public housing development.

Laurel Robinson, Executive Director Retires

- West Palm Beach Housing Authority

Laurel was appointed as ED of West Palm Beach HA on January 4th, 1999. Laurel lead the agency through Hurricanes, New Development and a Rebranding.

"On August 1, 2020, this journey will end for me and a new one into retirement will begin. My hope is that you will all remain safe, that your home here is decent, and that everyone is sheltered from what has become a very scary world. God bless each and every one." - Laurel Robinson



Shannon Young Elected to PHADA Board of Trustees

- Seminole County Housing

Congratulations to Shannon Young, Executive Director at Seminole County Housing on being elected to the PHADA Board of Trustees.



PHADA's 1,900 member housing agencies represent over 1.9 million low-income housing units throughout the United States. The Association provides its members with important information, professional development, and advocacy to help them administer adequate, safe housing for those in need across America.



Distributing "Blessing Bags" To Residents

- New Smyrna Beach Housing Authority

New Smyrna Beach Housing Authority has partnered with God's Table, the City of New Smyrna Beach, Friends of the Library, and Wilkes Pest Control to provide weekly food bags to residents.

These "Blessing Bags" are filled with nutritious foods and snacks provided by NSBHA's partners. Bags are available to all who need assistance

during these unprecedented times. Bags can be picked up in person, NSBHA requests that recipients remain in their car and open their trunk to allow for social distancing. Recipients can also pick up their "Blessing Bag" on foot, with prior arrangements made, to account for social distancing.

HUD Awards \$24 Million to Help Foster Care Kids

The following Florida Housing Authorities were awarded funding:

- West Palm Beach \$1,019,954
- Ocala \$149,941
- Seminole County \$94,579
- Hialeah \$353,255
- City of Homestead \$464,66



Photos taken prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Youth Programs Make Positive Impact

City of Thomaston Housing Authority

Founded in March 2015, the City of Thomaston Housing Authority's (THA) Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is comprised of youth residents (6th-12th grade) who are dedicated to community service. Collectively, the YAC has donated more than 600 hours of service to worthwhile community events and projects.

The group was honored with the City of Thomaston's Outstanding Community Service Award in 2017. YAC members are making a difference throughout Thomaston-Upson County

communities through their volunteer efforts and by demonstrating the importance of giving back through service to others.

THA's HomeWork Academy was created to provide after school

THA's "Summer in a Box" program provided children ages 5-13 with summer activities and snacks delivered directly to their doors.

with assistance from community partners and sponsors. THA also hosts a Summer Feeding Program where children receive healthy meals and snacks.

With the 2020 Coronavirus pandemic and social distancing requirements, THA shifted their Summer Enrichment and Feeding Programs to home delivery. The THA "Summer in a Box" program provided children ages 5-13 with summer activities and snacks delivered directly to their doors.

For more information on Thomaston Housing Authority's youth programs, visit thomastonhousing.org/youth-programs.



homework assistance and activities for THA elementary, middle school, and high school students in the Triune Village and Lincoln Park Circle communities. Learning activities are designed to enhance students' academic and life skills in important areas such as comprehension, mathematics, science, and decision making.

Another way THA works to keep children active and engaged is through the Summer Enrichment program.

Each summer, THA coordinates field trips and activities for resident youth



Thomaston Housing Authority
 Thomaston, GA
 PH: 288
 Managed Units: 43
 Patricia A. Allen, ED
ThomastonHousing.org



Food Resources for Residents During COVID-19

- Winder Housing Authority

The Wimberly Center for Community Development (a resource center for 12+ nonprofits) operated by the Winder Housing Authority (WHA) in Barrow County, Georgia has risen to the challenge to make our community more connected, healthier, and stronger during COVID-19.

Several nonprofits and local churches partnered with WHA to sponsor meals for 180 WHA seniors who were advised to socially isolate in their homes. The meals, consisted of 5 days worth of pasta, vegetables, and bread at a cost of around \$3,000 per week. The greatest testament to the Barrow County community and its relationship with the WHA was not the cost per week price tag; or the fact that these meals were provided for a entire month; it was seeing WHA staff,

church volunteers, and nonprofit-led teams hand delivering the meals to our WHA residents each week.

By partnering with Wimberly's Roots, a Wimberly Center-based nonprofit focused on food insecurity, the WHA was able to bring the Community Cafe to life! This program allows residents to pay what they feel comfortable with (no set price) and receive a great meal. Not only are our residents able to save a little money, but they are provided a (literal) garden-fresh meal in what was previously considered a food dessert.

Being able to collaborate with local partners and think of innovative ways to provide the greatest quality of life, is a great recipe for success during normal times, but during COVID-19, this has now become a necessity.

Virtual Summer Reading Program Offered

- Camilla Housing Authority

In the age of social distancing, it can be difficult to continue with your usual summer programs for residents. Camilla Housing Authority (CHA) was able to continue to provide opportunities for their youth to engage and learn while maintaining social distancing.

CHA instituted a Virtual Summer Reading Program. Students were able to use laptops provided by CHA to read online books and participate in educational activities promoting

literacy. The 6-week program was aimed at elementary aged children and promoted literacy, grammar, and spelling.



Newly Constructed Administration Building

- Douglas Housing Authority

Clara Graham, Executive Director and Douglas Housing Authority's (DHA) Commissioners sought to build a new Administration Building for the growing needs of DHA and the residents in the City of Douglas, Georgia.

This new 5,000 sq. ft. facility houses the Administrative, Resident Services, and Maintenance staff. DHA has 381 Public Housing units with 14 staff/employees and 2 full-time security officers.



Virtual Learning for Youth Leadership Academy

- Albany Housing Authority

With the new normal comes new opportunities for learning. This summer, the Albany Housing Authority (AHA) introduced their new Youth Leadership Academy. AHA partnered with Dougherty County School System, Gear UP and CampLive! to create virtual learning classes for youths (8th & 9th graders).

Each two week session included daily activities. The instructors provided projects and motivation to help students get ready for a new school year. The students learned about study habits, career exploration, lessons in entrepreneurial and business.

Dr. Myles, CEO of AHA stated, "We all benefit when our youth are educated and involved. Providing them the resources to do this is an honor for the AHA."

AHA provided over 30 campers with their own personal computers, to be used during their enrollment in the Youth Leadership Academy.



Photos taken prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Reach Higher Employment Program

Employment Programs Empower Residents at Bowling Green Housing Authority

The Bowling Green Housing Authority (BGHA) always focuses on meeting the needs of their residents, having developed a variety of innovative resident services programs and initiatives.

The Reach Program and Reach Higher Program, aim to assist residents find employment. The programs focus on residents that are difficult to employ, under employed, or unemployed. Residents are employed and given on the job training and continued education.

Reach Program Participants must be BGHA residents. These participants face employment barriers, may have low-education levels, poor soft skills, or the need for education/training.

Reach Program Participants are employed by BGHA for 12 months. Participants make \$10.00 per hour for their work and training. The Reach

Program is funded through capital funds for Resident Self-Sufficiency.

Reach Participants work on BGHA property to develop their work skills. Participants also receive an education component that matches with their career goals. The program assists with job searching, resume advice, and soft skills training.

The Reach Higher Program Has Served 800 Families in 2020.

Currently, six Reach Participants are working for BGHA properties in the program. The Reach Program has been in existence over 20 years. The program has serviced over 50 residents and has added over 16 full-time BGHA staff.


The Reach Higher Welfare to Work Program, services the 10 county Barren River Development District. Participants work 30 hours per week at various partner organizations. Participants work for 6 months and are paid by BGHA. The participants are also covered on the company's workman's comp insurance. The Reach Higher Participants gain on the

job training at their work placements. Each Friday, participants come to BGHA for training classes. **The Reach Higher program has served 800 families in 2020.**

The Reach Higher Program is made possible through many partnerships. Partners provide worksite locations, educational opportunities, or support services. Partners include: Western Kentucky University, University of Kentucky, Southcentral Kentucky Community and Technical College, Sherwin Williams, HUD Live the Dream Homeownership Program, Community Action of Southern Kentucky, Southern Kentucky Performing Arts Center, Independence Bank, Edmonton State Bank, and Woodforest Bank.

For more info on BGHA's programs, visit www.habg.org/





Bowling Green Housing Authority

Bowling Green Housing Authority
 Bowling Green, KY
 PH: 598
 Abraham Williams, ED
 HABG.org



Community Helps Residents When COVID Closes Many Local Businesses

- Housing Authority of Owensboro

The Housing Authority of Owensboro (HAO) partnered with local organizations to serve their residents. On June 27, 2020, local Matthew’s Table Church spearheaded a summer cookout to serve the HAO community.

During the COVID shutdown, many service industry facilities (that employ the majority of HAO families) closed. Matthew’s Table reached out to several agencies and ministries to network at this event, to let others know that people care about families and the need during these times we are currently facing.

Purdue Chicken Company provided nearly \$8,000 worth of free chicken.

Shepherd’s Hands ministry rolled in their fleet of volunteers and provided 100 children with five laundered, ironed and gently used outfits along with shoes.

G2G ministry, Black Expo, A Safe Haven for Kids, Matthew’s Table and of course

the cooking crew served over 3,000 barbeque plates at no cost.



Need a group medical plan? We’ve got you covered!

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- Life and Disability coverage through The Standard

For benefits and rates contact
Susan or Daniel Strange
sstrange@oeccwildblue.com
dan@callhsa.com
318-377-9268
www.housingbp.com





Photos taken prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Building Leaders On & Off The Court

SERC/MLK Basketball & Cheer Competition at Laurel Housing Authority

Laurel Housing Authority (LHA) encourages education and leadership through the SERC/MLK Basketball and Cheer competition for Housing Authority youth.

What began in 1991 as a mission to provide young people with structured activities and an alternative to gangs, drugs, and risky behaviors has developed into a life-changing opportunity for competition participants.

While it is billed as a basketball tournament and cheer competition, the event's overall goal is to encourage academic achievement. Teams registered in the annual event were required to participate in educational activities, learn about Martin Luther King's legacy, and be exposed to the history and culture of the host city.

The educational activities and special events are designed to provide a unique experience for participating youth.

Housing Authority youth from Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, and Mississippi participated in this year's event, held in Birmingham, AL. LHA sponsored two basketball teams and a cheer team during the January 2020 competition, with 21 students participating.

This Annual Event is an Important Part of LHA's Youth Outreach.

The annual event is an important part of LHA's youth outreach. LHA hosted the SERC/MLK Basketball and Cheer Competition in 2019.

"Although we did not place in any areas of competition this year, the youth experienced a great time in Birmingham. They toured the 16th Avenue Church and the Civil Rights Museum. They also heard encouraging words from guest speakers emphasizing the importance of education," stated



Felicia Jackson, LHA Assistant Executive Director.

The young people received medals and acknowledgment of participation at the tournament's banquet, where over 200 young people were in attendance.

Through this annual event, LHA and other sponsor Housing Authorities encourage youth to strive for excellence and to become leaders on and off the court.



Housing Authority
of the
City of Laurel

Laurel Housing Authority

Laurel, MS

PH: 624

Ailrick D. Young, PHM

facebook.com/LaurelHousingMS



Staff Members Donated Masks & Wipes

- Corinth Housing Authority

Members of the Corinth Housing Authority took measures into their own hands to make sure residents did not go without during the pandemic.

Staff members donated masks and wipes to 100 elderly residents at Tinnin Terrace Apartments. Each person in the household received five masks and

a container of disinfectant wipes at the apartment complex.



Alan L. Ingram, Executive Director Retires

- Natchez Housing Authority

The Natchez Housing Authority Board of Commissioners and employees would like to congratulate Alan L. Ingram on his retirement with the Natchez Housing Authority.

Alan gave NHA 39 years of his life. Alan retired on May 1st, 2020. Alan has been a tireless professional, a helpful boss & coworker, and a good friend.

Ms. Janice Herbert was appointed as the new Executive Director.

Janice has been with NHA for over 20 years and served in a variety of roles.



Darrell Franks Celebrates 27 Years with OHA

- Okolona Housing Authority

Darrell Franks is the Maintenance Supervisor at Okolona Housing Authority. Darrell began working for OHA in June of 1993.

For the last 27 years, his responsibilities have included ensuring residence apartments are up to par by repairing when needed, regular site inspections, execute work as necessary to maintain equipment and work on various projects. Darrell also performs minor fixes such as repairing broken locks, filling gaps on walls, installing appliances, checking control panels and electrical wiring to identify issues and much more.



Making Sure Every Resident Counts - Census

- Okolona Housing Authority

Okolona Housing Authority is helping to make sure every resident count in the 2020 census! OHA Resident Shavonda Watkins has been working with the US Census Bureau to make sure all public housing residents are counted.

It's not too late to respond to the 2020 census, you can respond online at www.2020Census.gov



ExpoGro Program

Provides Youth Experiences & Opportunities at Pembroke Housing Authority

The Pembroke Housing Authority's (PHA) ExpoGro Program encourages local youth (ages six to 18) to reach their full potential by improving academic achievement, boosting self-esteem, developing social competence, and avoiding problem/high-risk behavior through mentoring and tutoring by PHA Resident Services staff.

The ExpoGro Program is an after-school tutoring/mentoring program that engages "at-risk" youth through field trips to local organizations and UNC-Pembroke for educational experiences. The program also provides research in a computer lab, academic enhancement skills, and daily transportation from the PHA Community Center for program participants. Summer recreational programs during the months of June, July and August engage the youth in interactive learning and recreational

activities at various locations within the surrounding area. The ExpoGro program plays a key role in engaging youth and their families in the life learning process by providing opportunities to explore interests, gain competency in real life skills, solve problems, assume leadership roles, and increase social skills while emphasizing academics and building healthy parent/family relationships.

Participants in the ExpoGro program are invited to attend an annual Etiquette Banquet, where they may showcase their social skills and celebrate their achievements.

All costs associated with the ExpoGro program are funded in part by the Robeson County Juvenile Crime Prevention Council and PHA. The ExpoGro program is provided at no cost to youth that are residents of PHA.



For more information on the ExpoGro Program, contact PHA at (910) 521-1261 or (877) 735-8200 (TDD).



Pembroke Housing Authority
 Pembroke, NC
 PH: 243
 Ashley Lowry, ED
 PembrokeHA.com



NORTH CAROLINA

CCHRCO BEYOND Scholarship Winner: Choma Mudenda

- Greensboro Housing Authority

A graduate of Ben L. Smith High School in Greensboro, NC, Choma Mudenda was selected as a 2020 Carolinas Council of Housing Redevelopment and Codes Officials (CCHRCO) BEYOND scholarship recipient.

Mudenda maintained a 4.25 cumulative grade point average throughout her high-school career.

Mudenda's family moved to an assisted housing community when her mother became disabled and unable to continue work as a nurse.

"Everything in my world changed when we moved into assisted living," states Mudenda. Her time in assisted housing impacted her outlook and future.

"Living in my assisted housing community has shown me the injustices people face based on their race and economic standpoint. Seeing these things has inspired me to become a public defense attorney," explained Mudenda.

This fall, Mudenda will attend the University of North Carolina at Charlotte majoring in Political Science on a Pre-Law track.

Two \$500 BEYOND Scholarship are awarded annually to two residents of a CCHRCO affordable housing

BITS & PIECES



community. One NC Resident and one SC Resident each are selected to receive the \$500 BEYOND Scholarship. Brooks Jeffrey Marketing, Inc. sponsors the BEYOND scholarship for CCHRCO.

For more information on the BEYOND Scholarship, visit: www.BJMweb.com/beyond





Award-Winning Website Addresses ADA Accessibility

- Monroe Housing Authority

Monroe Housing Authority's new responsive website - their 2nd site created by Brooks Jeffrey Marketing, Inc. (BrooksJeffrey.com) - won CCHRCO's 2020 Website of the Year - Medium HA Category.

The upgraded website includes the addition of new colors, updated logos and layout, as well as new features.

To help make this new website more accessible for all users (including those using adaptive technology), it has been built using Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 to address American with Disabilities Act (accessibility guidelines).

Some of the features/functions on the new website include:

- Easy access to Apply Online & Pay Online
- Sign Up for News
- Text & Email Notifications to Subscribers



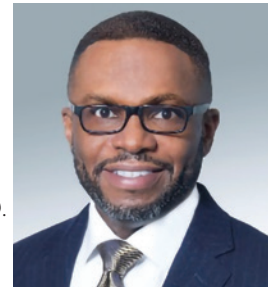
MonroeHousing-NC.com



James Cox Named CEO

- Greensboro Housing Authority

The Greensboro Housing Authority (GHA) Board of Commissioners has announced the selection of James Cox as the new CEO.



Cox joined GHA in 2011 as the Vice President of Real Estate Development, overseeing acquisitions, sales, and development of real property assets. After being promoted to Chief Operating Officer in 2014, he was responsible for leading GHA's daily operations and played a key role in the implementation of the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) initiative.

With a track record of leading and managing successful businesses and housing programs, he brings over 20 years of experience in sustainable mixed-use, mixed-income, and affordable housing development to the CEO position.

Lifting Spirits - One Meal At A Time

- Roxboro Housing Authority

Since April 2020, Roxboro Housing Authority (RHA) staff delivered over 12,000 hot, nutritious lunch meals and distributed hundreds of safety, educational and personal hygiene products to RHA children and families. This was one of several community engagement activities carried out by RHA to help low-income families during the novel coronavirus pandemic.

Director Felts Lewis said, "I wanted to make sure kids got more than a good, healthy meal to last them until the next one a few hours later. I also wanted RHA to help give kids and families the means to stay safe, informed and engaged as we deal with an unprecedented health crisis."

About 175 meals per day are distributed at each of RHA's four complexes. Parents come with personal protective equipment to receive meals with limited contact with staff. The Authority distributes surgical masks, dental kits,

hand sanitizer, and COVID-19 public health flyers.

To lift spirits of students learning from home, RHA distributed care packages containing Census2020 coloring books, STEM worksheets, crossword puzzles, athletic balls and toys.

Starting in late July, Food Bank provided RHA with hundreds of breakfast packages for its residents.

The meal distribution initiative is led by Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator Larry Mayfield. RHA Housing Manager Froncello Bumpass, Resident-Opportunities Coordinator Annie Graham and STEM contract instructor Charlene Bumphus all manage distribution sites.

The North Carolina Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) provides nutritious meals to children who would normally receive free or reduced-price



meals in school. SFSP helps children to maintain a nutritious diet and helps their families to stretch their food dollars during the summer months. The Food Bank is one its partnering organizations. K&W is its contracted food vendor.

For more information, check out www.RoxboroHA.com or call (336) 647-4340.



Photos taken prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Launching New Programs & Continuing Longstanding Services

- Columbia Housing

This summer, Columbia Housing (CH) has been busy serving their residents through programs new and old.

Home-Spot Initiative Program

In a new program called the Home-Spot Initiative, 65 mobile wi-fi hot spots will be distributed to all Housing Authority communities in Richland County. These wi-fi hot spots in residential communities help students with virtual learning and will bring internet access to the residents.



“It means connecting our families to a much-needed resource,” says Yvonda Bean, Chief Operating Officer at CH. “One community may have two mobile hot spots. Another community may have four mobile hot spots. But all of our communities now have access to free internet service through the Home-Spot program.”

Residents will have the ability to complete homework and learning assignments from home, contact family and friends remotely, and access information that has moved to digital platforms.

This initiative is made possible by the funding from the McNulty Foundation and the Richland Library Friends and Foundation.

In addition to this new program, Columbia Housing has continued to provide longstanding programs for their residents.

Summer Employment Program

The Summer Employment Program exposes participants to educational opportunities. The program focuses on cultivating financial literacy, career and job prep, personal enrichment, and post-secondary education readiness within its members.

Over the last 40 years, Columbia Housing has provided approximately 925 of its high school students with

summer jobs through their Summer Youth Employment Program.

Over the last 40 years, Columbia Housing has provided approx. 925 of its high school students with summer jobs through their Summer Youth Employment Program.

For more info on any of our projects, please visit ColumbiaHousingSC.org or RichlandLibrary.com



Columbia Housing

Columbia, SC

PH: 1,887

HCV: 4,154

Ivory Mathews, CEO
ColumbiaHousingSC.org



CCHRCO BEYOND Scholarship Winner: LaKita Boyd

- Spartanburg Housing Authority



LaKita Boyd of Spartanburg, SC, was selected as a 2020 Carolinas Council of Housing Redevelopment and Codes Officials (CCHRCO) BEYOND scholarship recipient.

Boyd is furthering her education to achieve her ultimate goal of obtaining her Bachelor of Nursing degree and becoming a Registered Nurse. Boyd has always had a passion for the medical field. On her path to a nursing career, Boyd earned these certificates: Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), and Certified Surgical Tech.

“My priorities have always been caring for and helping others,” stated Boyd.

As a single parent, Boyd experienced many challenges that would persuade

others to quit - but she is determined to reach her goal.

Boyd will continue her education at Spartanburg Community College this fall in pursuit of her RN nursing degree.

Two \$500 BEYOND Scholarships are awarded annually to two residents of a CCHRCO affordable housing community. One NC Resident and one SC Resident each are selected to receive the \$500 BEYOND Scholarship. Brooks Jeffrey Marketing, Inc. sponsors the BEYOND scholarship for CCHRCO.

For more information on the BEYOND Scholarship, visit: www.BJMweb.com/beyond



Ivory Mathews Named CEO

- Columbia Housing



Ivory N. Mathews was recently selected as the CEO of Columbia Housing in Columbia, South Carolina after serving for a year as the Interim CEO.

Six months prior to Ms. Mathews arrival, Columbia Housing was challenged with the loss of public trust and appointing a leader who could help restore public trust was paramount to its Board of Commissioners.

“When I think about the situation we were in a year ago, we faced challenges that we as a board did not know where in the world to begin to solve,” Anne Sinclair, Vice Chairman of the board said.

“We needed somebody who could come in and resolve issues but at the same time move us forward to providing

housing to people in the city. We found that person in Mrs. Mathews.”

Mathews previously spent nearly five years as the executive director for the Greenville Housing Authority. Before Greenville, she worked for housing authorities in Toledo, Ohio, and Aiken, South Carolina.

For More Information: ColumbiaHousingSC.org

Congratulations 2020 CCHRCO SC Websites of the Year



ColumbiaHousingSC.org



BeaufortHA.com



KingstreeHousing.org





Nashville Songwriters Collaborate with Students

- Trenton Housing Authority

COVID-19 did not stop students from attending the Trenton Housing Authority Summer Enrichment Program at the Robert Sidney Phelan Center this year. They had a rare opportunity to work in a songwriting workshop presented by Nashville Music professionals. LeAnn Phelan owner of LP Creative Management in Nashville and daughter of the late Robert Sidney Phelan created a songwriting project. She brought music to the students and arranged for them to work directly with Nashville’s own Jake Rose and Catt Gravitt by introducing them to songwriting. Phelan taught the group grades K-8 about the many opportunities within the music

industry and she worked directly with the students at the center as they developed ideas for a song.

Many great ideas were submitted and some students already had a tune in mind. After hearing an ice cream idea and talking it over with others involved, the decision for the song was made. This set LeAnn Phelan in motion to get a song written. Knowing the country music industry as she does, Phelan arranged a Zoom chat so students could meet and work with Jake Rose, country music artist and Catt Gravitt, songwriter, to create lyrics and music for the song idea. Students learned quickly that there were many steps to actually writing a song the professional way. With Jake and Catt at the helm, they took the idea and ran with it.

The kids were amazed to see that they were involved in writing “Ice Cream Remix”, an upbeat, vibrant song that after you have heard it, sticks with you. The song was written by students providing ideas and rhyming words for the team to combine with music.



LeAnn, Catt and Jake worked so well with the students, through the newly organized distance learning classroom at the Phelan Center, that they excitedly told the kids they needed to come to Trenton and meet them all.

The song “Ice Cream Remix” was recorded for the students to hear and they loved the professional final version that they got to hear while eating ice cream!



TRENTON
Housing Authority

Trenton Housing Authority

Trenton, TN
PH: 210

Doug Lockard, ED
facebook.com/

TrentonHousingAuthority



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New HUD EnVision Center

- Bristol Redevelopment & Housing Authority

Bristol Redevelopment and Housing Authority Executive Director Lisa Porter, was joined by Joseph J. Defelice, HUD Mid-Atlantic Regional Administrator, City of Bristol, Virginia Mayor Neal Osborne and City of Bristol, Tennessee Mayor Margaret Feierabend in announcing a newly designated HUD EnVision Center in the City of Bristol, Virginia.

Bristol is the fourth EnVision Center designation in Virginia, and the seventh in the Mid-Atlantic region. What's unique about this announcement is that Mr. Defelice made it virtually on Twitter, and you can see the announcement in its entirety on the HUD Mid-Atlantic YouTube Playlist.

EnVision Centers provide a centralized location for support in four main areas:

- Economic Empowerment
- Educational Advancement
- Health and Wellness
- Character and Leadership

Bristol Redevelopment and Housing Authority has a strong relationship with agencies/programs in the community who provide services that will enrich lives in the areas of the four pillars. The

help and support given through these programs will help eliminate barriers so that education and employment can happen, and families will be better equipped to become self-sufficient.

EnVision Centers provide a centralized location for support in four main areas:

- **Economic Empowerment**
- **Educational Advancement**
- **Health and Wellness**
- **Character and Leadership.**

This unique project provides an opportunity for the cities of Bristol VA/ TN that fills a long-standing need. For several years, the community has spoken of a desire for someone to provide case management services for those who need assistance but were not already linked to an agency where that need was met.

The EnVision Center will be the point of contact in the community where agencies can make those referrals. Then, through partnerships with area service providers, goals can be set and

barriers eliminated to improve quality of life. This is truly a collective partnership that benefits everyone.

"It will be the only EnVision Center in Southwest Virginia, the first rural EnVision Center and the only one that crosses state lines - in two cities and two states," said BHRA executive director Lisa Porter.

Pictured Above (left to right): Standing in front of the EnVision Center at Bristol Redevelopment Housing Authority are Lisa Porter, ED; Tracy Tester, Resident Services Staff; Vickie Green, Resident Services Staff; Lynn Pannell, Resident Services Manager.



Bristol Redevelopment & Housing Authority

Bristol, VA
PH: 679
Lisa Porter, ED
BRHA.com



Photos taken prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Athletes & Their Families Give Back to Their Community

- Suffolk Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Members of Lakeland’s co-state championship basketball team came to Suffolk RHA to feed children who live in their Hoffler Park Community. Players handed out bagged lunches near the basketball court and playground. They prepared ham and turkey sandwiches, Gatorade, Easter baskets and other treats for the children.

“We just want to be a blessing for the community,” said Lakeland assistant coach Tony Smith. “The guys came up with the idea and brought it to the coaches. We were like, it’s a great idea. Let’s go out here and make it happen. And so we’re out here just trying to be a blessing.”

For the players, they simply wanted to give back to those in need. “We just knew that people weren’t going to be

able to go out and get food and drinks, stuff like that, so we just decided to come out here and do it for people that can’t,” said Lakeland junior Calvin Williams.

While out at Hoffler Park, players wore gloves as a precaution while handing out the food to the children, many of whom took advantage of the warm weather to sit outside and eat their lunches.

As players handed out the remaining lunches before leaving, they said it felt good to get together again, and they enjoyed being able to help feed the children. They are already planning to return soon to feed them again “We just wanted to give back to the kids,” Saunders said, “and lend a helping hand for those who need it.”



100 Families - 100 Days

100 Families - 100 Days

- Harrisonburg Redevelopment & Housing Authority

Every month, individuals and families who have been approved for a housing voucher search online and contact landlords for a place to rent. Every month, many of these same people are simply unable to find a landlord who will accept their voucher. HRHA had long dreamed of launching a campaign to engage new landlords about partnering with their Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program. Now funding through the 2020 CARES Act has allowed them to do just that.

HRHA launched the 100 Families in 100 Days Housing Campaign on June 15, 2020. Their goal is to work with local landlords and secure housing for 100 families by September 30, 2020. They are working diligently and offering new landlord incentives, reworked staffing, a refreshed landlord web page, expanded landlord portal, online information sessions and more to enhance local landlord collaboration.

Their message is clear: We need landlords to partner with us to help secure housing for our most vulnerable individuals and families.





Serving in the New Normal

Charleston-Kanawha Housing Authority

Although there have been many challenges in the summer of 2020, Charleston-Kanawha Housing Authority (CKHA) has collaborated with several partners to ensure youth who live in their communities are able to have educational and literacy opportunities, in addition to having adequate nutrition.

In a typical summer, Step By Step, Inc. would provide nutritional meals and snacks for their community children through the USDA Summer Food Service Program. Additionally, with funding through the 21st Century Learning Center Program, they usually offer a six-week summer enrichment program that focuses on STEM, music, art, literacy, and physical activities. This program is especially valuable as it offers transportation across four of their housing communities to the Switzer Center at Orchard Manor, where the program is held.

Due to the impact and restrictions regarding COVID-19, traditional enrichment programming has not been an option. In coordination with CKHA,



Step By Step, Inc. offered Family Learning Enrichment Packets. This summer, 58 families (with multiple children in each household) participated in the program. The program featured hard copies of family activities, online resources, and mentorship when needed. Packets were delivered weekly, along with books. Each packet had five days' worth of family activities and was centered around a specific book. These books were a part of the collaboration that includes CKHA and Save the Children to encourage reading and increased literacy for children and families.

CKHA offered on-site WIFI access near the main buildings for those children and families who are unable to access it in their homes. This also allowed them to access resources from Kanawha County Public Library website, such as homework help and e-books. With funding from Save the Children, active reading participants received prizes at the end of the program, which most commonly consisted of a tablet.

In addition to focusing on educational opportunities, CKHA and its partners wanted to ensure adequate nutrition for the youth. The West Virginia Department of Education via Kanawha County Schools has continued weekly meal distribution with school buses coming to the sites. Step By Step, Inc. also distributes on-site meals and snack bags three times a week, with each bag



containing a double portion. Currently, 135 children, across sites, are receiving meals each day of distribution.

A new program, ran by the Underprivileged Children's Foundation, the Food S.H.A.C.K. (Stop Hunger Among Community Kids) Food Truck, comes to Orchard Manor each Monday at to distribute a hot meal at lunch for anyone 18 or under and is open to residents at Orchard Manor, Littlepage, or any other child in the community. Currently, meals are served to approximately 30 children each Monday at that location while providing meals to other sites throughout the week.



Charleston-Kanawha Housing

Charleston Kanawha Housing Authority
 Charleston, WV
 PH: 1,303 SHCV: 3,006
 Mark Taylor, CEO
 CKHA.com



COVID-19 Testing Available To Residents

- Charleston-Kanawha Housing Authority

Part of Charleston-Kanawha Housing Authority's (CKHA) mission is to provide safe housing for residents. During these unprecedented times, it is vital to ensure the health and safety of their communities. One way they have been able to do this is by collaborating with agencies, such as Cabin Creek Health Systems.

They have been able to provide free COVID-19 testing to all CKHA



communities. Cabin Creek Health Systems was able to provide testing at resident's doorsteps or at appropriate public spaces. This has made testing available to many residents with pre-existing conditions or those without access to transportation.

On July 21st, CKHA was able to host a testing event with some of their local partners. Cabin Creek Health Systems once again provided free COVID-19 testing. Pre-registration for testing was available and encouraged but not required. The Community Garden at Orchard Manor made an ideal location, as it allowed for appropriate social distancing. Each participant was greeted at the front garden gate and instructed to enter one at a time. Resident information was obtained, and they continued into the garden for the



test. Residents were directed to leave through the side gate and were given a meal and snack bag by Step By Step, Inc., who also offered information about educational programming for children, books and flip-flops. In addition, they were given information about United Way's 211 program and offered sunscreen from Charleston Area Medical Center's Child Advocacy Center.

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Ivory N. Mathews, CEO
Columbia Housing (SC)

Shaundra Clark, ED
Tifton Housing Authority
(GA)



Tracey Snipes, ED/CEO
Suffolk Redevelopment &
Housing Authority (VA)



Franklin Scott, ED/CEO
North Charleston Housing
Authority (SC)



Yvonda A. Bean, COO
Columbia Housing (SC)



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- PHA Rebranding
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The Elephant in the Room



by Mike Sweet, SERC NAHRO Legislative Committee Chairman

In my humble opinion, the recent unrest in our country is unprecedented in its severity during this modern era. For the most part, it does not appear that the affordable housing industry has been directly affected. However, I believe these events have the potential to tear the very fabric of our society. If this happens, it will affect all of us. Forgive me, I know I may be off our normal subject matter, but I feel that I would be remiss if I fail to acknowledge the current strife in our country.

Of course, this is not the first time that something like this has happened. In 1992, as a twenty-one year old college student, I watched Los Angeles burn. Then something amazing happened - on May, 1, 1992, Mr. Rodney King, the man at the center of the conflict, gave a press conference. I can't remember what I expected but it wasn't anything like what happened. The twenty-one year old me was probably like most young assertive men of that time. If I had been subjected to the abuse that Mr. King had taken, I

would have been seething with anger and resolved on vengeance. I probably would have been happy to watch every inch of L.A. burn... so maybe that is what I expected.

What actually happened is I witnessed a handsome and articulate African American man give an emotional plea to his community. This is some of what he said: **"I just want to say you know, can we... can we all get along? Can we... can we get along? Can we stop making it horrible for the older people and kids? I mean we've got enough smog here in Los Angeles let alone to deal with setting these fires and things. It's not right! It's not right! It's not going to change anything. We will get our justice. They have won the battle but they haven't won the war. We will have our day in court. We got to quit! We got to quit! After all, I can understand the upset after the first two hours after the verdict. But to keep going on like this... to see the security guard shot on the ground. It's just not right because those people will never go**

home to their families. Please! We can get along here. We can all get along. We're all stuck here for a while let's try to work it out... let's try to work it out."

I was shocked! Watching Mr. King humble himself on national TV in an effort to help his community put an end to the violence and destruction was life changing for me. Up until that day, I had never had much empathy for other people.

Sometimes you find wisdom in the most unusual places. Rest in peace, Mr. King.

Mr. King was right. We are all stuck here for a while. It doesn't make much sense not to help one another. I am resolved to do what I can. As always, please send me your thoughts and feedback via email to: chick604@bellsouth.net



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

2021 Annual Conference - June 13-16, 2021
at the Marriott Downtown Hotel in
Louisville, Kentucky

Visit SERC-NAHRO.org for up-to-date meeting information.

CANCELED (Due to COVID-19)

SERC-NAHRO Executive Committee Meeting
& Fall Workshop - November 6-10, 2020

Myrtle Beach Marriott Resort & Spa
at Grande Dunes in Myrtle Beach, SC



Tips on Choosing the Right Vendor

Select Vendors That Take the Time to Learn About Your Needs

by SLADE, LLC - Birmingham, AL

During these unprecedented times it is important to partner with vendors who understand Public Housing & the Affordable Housing industry. Even more important is selecting a vendor that takes the time to learn about your agency's needs!

Getting the best service is not always easy, but using these tips will help you research & select vendors who can best serve your agency and allow you to form long term partnerships.

Work with Vendors who Understand the Housing Industry—

Public Housing & Affordable Housing are unique with specific challenges and standards that vendors should be aware of. It is important that your vendor knows how best to serve you. Consider working with vendors who have experience with other Public & Affordable Housing agencies. These vendors will be better



acquainted with the procurement process, allowing you to hit the ground running with a vendor who understands how best to work with you.

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- General Contracting Services
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- Geotechnical Services
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- Facility Maintenance
- COVID-19 Cleaning/Supply Services

Work with Vendors Who Provide a Variety of Services—

Housing agencies are relying more and more on their partners. When working with your vendor, consider choosing providers who can help your agency in a variety of areas. Working with a vendor with multiple service areas allows you to utilize a vendor you know and trust for a variety of projects.

SLADE has worked with Housers on a variety of projects including lead detection and abatement. Their staff is multi-disciplined and ready to serve your agency on a variety of projects.

Work with Vendors Who Adapt –

When choosing a vendor, consider vendors who show they can adapt to your needs. In a post COVID-19 world, you are changing how you serve your

residents. Look into vendors who are making changes as well.

SLADE has worked to adapt to this new normal during the COVID-19 pandemic. SLADE has developed new services and provides the much-needed PPE and cleaning products. Additionally, SLADE takes CDC recommended precautions to keep you and your residents safe!

Work with Vendors Who Support Affordable Housing—

When choosing who to work with, consider supporting businesses that support Public Housing and the Affordable Housing industry. These vendors are invested in your mission of providing affordable housing to your residents.

SLADE is a proud supporter of Public Housing and Affordable Housing. We will best serve you and your residents in providing safe, sanitary, and sustainable affordable housing. Ask for our Public Housing and Affordable Housing experiences and references. And you will rest easy knowing you are in good hands.

For more info, visit sladellc.com or call 1-866-925-5742.

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