

#### **Greensboro Housing Authority**

# **Community News**

FALL 2013

The mission of the Greensboro Housing Authority is to provide safe, quality, affordable housing to low-income, elderly, and the disabled in the Greensboro Community; to maintain a safe and secure community environment; and to encourage personal responsibility and upward mobility of residents while maintaining the fiscal integrity of the agency.

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## **GHA Awarded Human Service Award**

Greensboro Housing Authority (GHA) was recently awarded Carolinas Council of Housing Redevelopment and Code Officials' Human Service Award for its Computer Explorers: Pre-K & Mommy Class. The award is designed to recognize authorities that "address the issues, concerns and problems that often take some creative thinking to address".

Computer Explorers is designed to enhance the development of preschool children, ages two and a half to four, while also preparing "Mommy" to enter the workforce. While the



Santita Williamson and daughter Naeemah Williamson are assisted by GHA's Client Services Coordinator at Claremont Courts.

class instructor is working with the children to learn computer skills, parents can work in the same computer lab creating resumes and completing job searches online.

Computer Explorers: Pre -K & Mommy Class is held each Wednesday at 11 am in the Claremont Courts computer lab, 2702 Patio Place. Please call 303-3009 for additional information

#### Macklin Selected As New Vice President



Kelvin Macklin, GHA's new Vice President of Operations

Kelvin Macklin joins the Greensboro Housing Authority as Vice President of Operations. He is a native of Eastern North Carolina and a graduate of North Carolina Central University. Macklin is married with two teenage boys.

Prior to his tenure at GHA, he held executive level positions

with various housing authorities and acquired 20 years experience delivering quality affordable housing to public housing residents.

Macklin holds certifications in Asset Management, Public Housing, Housing Choice Voucher and Low Income Housing Tax Credits.

Jean Wright, "What Home Means to Me" **National Winner** 

### **National Poster Winner Announced**

Jean Wright, a resident of GHA's Hickory Trails Community, has been selected as a national winner in the "What Home Means to Me" poster competition. The annual art contest asks children who live in affordable housing across the U.S. to submit posters expressing the theme. Thirteen winners were selected from the entries. Jean's artwork will be featured in next year's "What Home Means to Me" calendar published by the National Association of Housing and Housing

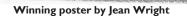
and Redevelopment Officials. In addition, she will receive a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond.

State and local winners have also been selected and include:

- Niclette Kapinga
- Zoe Best
- MilaniRae Murray
- Serenity Johnson
  - Tyrese Hardy
  - Tatiyana Blakely
  - Aminah Blakely
    - Angela Dukes
  - Sabria Tomlin
  - **DeArius Morton**
  - Harmonee Cooper

All winners were recognized at GHA's Housing America Celebration held October 8th at the Greensboro Cultural Center located at 200 N. Davie Street. The artwork will be displayed until October 15th.







**Audrey Watkins (center** left), pictured with GHA **CEO Tina Akers Brown and Executive Director Craig** Thomas of Mary's House, and Stephanie Gambrell (pictured with son on the right) were awarded cars at the Wheels 4 Hope Anniversary Celebration. Both are participants in GHA's Housing Choice Voucher Program.





# Battle receives recognition from GCFC

Rickey Battle, a Ray Warren Homes resident and participant in GHA's Family Self Sufficiency Program, was recognized by the Guilford

County Fatherhood Coalition (GCFC) at their Third Annual Awards Banquet. Each year, GCFC recognizes outstanding fathers and father figures in Greensboro.

Mr. Battle is a single father of three - Dana, Deliah and Rickey Battle, Jr.

# Haircuts at Back

to School Celebration

# Great Summer for GHA Youth



National Night Out celebrated.



"You Look Ridiculous" play performed.



GHA Youth and CEO Tina Akers Brown attend Youth Explosion.



Tennis and Reading combine at Summer Camp.

#### **RAD Information Shared**

With increased budget cuts to all government programs, public housing authorities across the country are having to make tough choices between repairing roofs or replacing plumbing - or worse, demolishing communities altogether - because there simply isn't enough money to go around. Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) is a program of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that seeks to preserve aging public housing communities by providing additional funding to make needed physical improvements. GHA is moving forward to investigate how RAD may provide much needed funds.

During the month of September, GHA staff held 12 meetings for all 2,203 residents at seven different communities throughout the city to discuss RAD, how it may effect public housing,

and to receive our residents' input and questions.

Here are a few things you should know about RAD:

- Physical improvements will be done throughout the communities.
- Income-based rent calculation will remain the same at 30% of adjusted income.
- Through RAD's Choice Mobility Option, residents can request a housing choice voucher after 1 or 2
- Resident Councils will continue to be recognized.
- Residents may stay in their current apartments but limited daily relocation may be required for some repairs and renovations.
- Informal hearings will still be offered for grievances.



Residents attend RAD informational meeting at Hall Towers.

#### COMMUNITY NEWS

A publication of the Greensboro Housing Authority

**Tina Akers Brown**Chief Executive Officer

Mary Beth Myers Editor

#### **Contact Us**

Administrative Office 275-8501

Assisted Housing Office 271-3368

Property Management Region I Claremont Courts · Laurel Oaks · Foxworth · Woodberry Run · Baylor Ct. Lakespring Ct. 274-3491

Property Management Region 2 Hampton Homes · Hickory Trails · Woodland Village 274-3236 · 297-2114

Property Management Region 3 Smith Homes · Abby Court 273-3688

Property Management Region 4 Ray Warren Homes · Applewood · Silverbriar · Riverbirch · Pear Leaf 275-6995

Property Management Region 5 Gateway Plaza · Hall Towers · Stoneridge 275-9892 · 272-7869

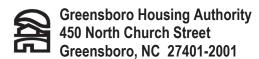
Client Services 370-4380

Housing Choice Voucher Program Family Self Sufficiency · Homeownership 303-3079 · 271-2546

Public Housing Family Self Sufficiency 303-3003 · 303-3009 · 303-3034

GHA Maintenance Emergencies 272-4137





Visit us on the Web at www.gha-nc.org

# **Just for Residents**

- ♦ Emergency Assistance for Rent, Electrical, Gas, Food or Clothing: Please bring late or past due notices from GHA or utility companies. Rent is due by the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month. Utilities should not be in disconnect status.
- ♦ GHA Vikings Basketball & Cheerleading Coming Soon:
  To participate you must be:
  - ⇒ 14-18 year old team player with a positive attitude.
  - ⇒ A GHA resident
  - ⇒ Enrolled in school with a 2.0 GPA or higher
  - ⇒ Not currently playing basketball or cheerleading at a school
- Resident Council Elections:
  Elections will be held in GHA communities on Nov. 19th, 9 am to 3 pm.



- ♦ Family Self-Sufficiency: Your Road to Success. Call for an appointment to sign up today.
- Scholarship Opportunities: Know of a high school senior who will pursue college or someone who is currently enrolled in higher education classes? We have scholarship opportunities to discuss.

For assistance or further information about any of these great services and opportunities, please call Client Services at 370-4380.