

1941 - 2014



Greensboro  
Housing Authority

73 Years of Excellence in  
Affordable Housing

www.gha-nc.org

# Community News

WINTER 2014

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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## Resident Advisory Board Reviews Agency Plan

Members of Greensboro Housing Authority's (GHA) Resident Advisory Board (RAB) met on January 14, 2014, to review, give their input and approval for GHA's 2015 Annual Plan as well as approval for a substantial amendment to the 2014 Annual Plan.

The plan is a comprehensive guide to GHA's policies, programs, operations and strategies for meeting our local housing needs and goals. The document is reviewed and updated each year to reflect changes in GHA's policies, programs and operations.

The Annual Plan is available to the public for review at the following locations:

- ◆ GHA's Central Office, 450 N. Church Street
- ◆ GHA Management Offices

**Annual Plan Public Hearing**  
**Thursday, March 6, 2014, 6 pm**  
**Claremont Courts Community Center**  
**2702 Patio Place, Greensboro**

- ◆ Greensboro Central Library, 219 N. Church St.
- ◆ Greensboro's Planning and Community Development, 300 W. Washington St.
- ◆ Various mixed-income communities

After the required 45-day review period, a public hear-

ing will be held on March 6, 2014, to receive input from the public.

Recommendations of the RAB and public will be considered and changes made before submission of the plan to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development for approval.



RAB members (l to r) Linda McDowell, Ernestine Surgeon, Adetra Daniels, Pamela Stimpson, Katherine Townsend, Janet Johnson, Lucille Rucker, Desiree Van Diver, Magail Mebane and Gloria Rankin. Not pictured Elizabeth Jackson.



# Your tax refund is waiting for you. Claim it for free at GHA Labs

A free online filing service is available at GHA computer labs for people who:

- Have a household Adjusted Gross Income of \$57,000 or less.
- Have basic computer and internet skills.
- Want to do their own taxes with help from an IRS certified volunteer.

GHA residents can take advantage of the service by logging on to [www.myfreetaxes.com/www-myfreetaxes-comgha](http://www.myfreetaxes.com/www-myfreetaxes-comgha). GHA and certified

IRS volunteers are available by phone, email or online chat to answer questions. You can also request in-person help by calling 2-1-1 for local Volunteer Income Tax Assistance.

Computer labs are open for all GHA tenants who wish to use the Facilitated Self Assistance Tax Preparation service. Labs are open at Ray Warren and Smith Homes on Monday-Friday, 10am to 3 pm; Claremont Courts and Hampton

Homes each Monday, 10am to 3 pm; Hall Towers on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10am to 3 pm; and Stoneridge on Mondays, 11am to 2 pm, and Fridays, 2 to 5pm.

People wanting to use the service should be prepared with the following:

- Driver's License or non-driver ID. Spouses filing jointly must both be present.
- W-2s, 1099s and other income and tax-related

forms.

- Social Security or Individual Taxpayer ID for each family member and working adult.
- Childcare provider name, address and tax ID.
- Bank routing and account numbers for checking and savings accounts if direct deposit is desired.
- Valid email address.
- A copy of last year's tax return if available.

**HealthCare.gov**  
Take health care into your own hands

## Need Health Coverage?

## Visit the Health Insurance Marketplace

Having trouble finding health insurance that fits your needs and your budget? Look no further than the Health Insurance Marketplace. All plans in the Marketplace cover essential health benefits, pre-existing conditions, and more.

To find the latest, most accurate, information about the Marketplace visit **HealthCare.gov**. At this website, you can learn how the Marketplace works, who can apply for insurance, how to get insurance, how to lower your costs, and more. When you are ready to apply and enroll in a health plan, HealthCare.gov is the place for that, too!

No matter where you live, you may buy insurance from private health plans that cover a comprehensive set of benefits, including doctor visits, hospital stays, preventive care, and prescriptions. And plans in the Marketplace must treat you fairly; they can't deny you coverage because of a pre-existing condition. With a single application, you also will find out if you qualify for Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program, or savings you can use right away to lower your health insurance premiums.

Getting covered is especially important for the African-American community. More than 20% of African-Americans are uninsured, and often have higher rates of serious disease. 41% of African-American have high blood pressure, as compared to only 22% of non-Hispanic white Americans. African-Americans are also at higher risk for prostate cancer and glaucoma, as compared with other Americans, and are less likely to receive preventive care.

**The first Marketplace open enrollment period ends March 31, 2014. Starting in 2014, open enrollment is from October 15 – December 7 each year. Greensboro Housing Authority will hold two informational meetings for residents to answer questions and explain the enrollment process further.**

### GHA Affordable Health Care Meetings

- ♦ **Feb. 12, 5 pm - Claremont Courts, 2702 Patio Place**
- ♦ **Feb. 19, 5 pm - Hampton Homes, 1300 Ogden Street**

*Meetings open to all GHA residents.*

**Triad Adult and Pediatric Medicine--Family Medicine at Eugene St.**

**1002 S. Eugene Street, Greensboro, NC**

**Opens February 3, 2014, and is accepting new patients.**

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

8 am to 5 pm

Wednesdays

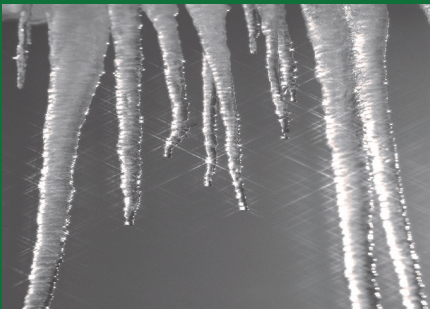
10 am to 5 pm

Call (336)355-9920 beginning Jan. 22, 2014,  
to schedule your appointment.

Family Medicine at Eugene Street will care for children (5 years and above)  
through adults. An onsite pharmacy will help with your prescriptions.

The Practice's Healthcare Services Include: Primary Care Medical Home, Wellness and Preventive  
Medicine, Immunizations, Annual Screenings, Acute Care, Management of Chronic Medical Conditions,  
Referrals to Specialty Medical Care, Onsite Pharmacy

The practice accepts Medicaid, Medicare, Private Insurance and Offers a Sliding Scale Fee.



## When Frigid Temperatures Strike

Even in the coldest, most miserable weather, you can further protect your plumbing from freezing by taking a few additional steps. Even if you're not home at the time, you can still protect your pipes.

**Keep Utilities On.** Damage caused by frozen pipes in an unheated apartment will result in a serious lease violation and your payment for repairs.

**Turn on Your Faucets.** Let the water run no faster than a slow constant drip. It doesn't have to be much: Even a slow trickle of water ensures that water remains flowing, and flowing water freezes with more difficulty.

**Open Doors.** Underneath kitchen and bathroom sinks, inside cabinets, the temperature can be much lower than in the room. Open up the doors to allow air to circulate. This also applies to bathroom doors or any room in which you have a faucet or water-filled appliance. Keep the doors open to help battle frozen plumbing lines.

**Raise Your Thermostat.** Keep your thermostat setting a little higher when the temperatures drop below freezing. If you normally lower the temperature at night, leave it at the daytime setting.

**Prepare for an Absence.** If you will be away from home for an extended period of time, plan for your pipes. First, keep your thermostat set at a minimum of 55 degrees F. This will prevent the inside temperature from plummeting into the danger zone.

### Contacting GHA for Emergency Repairs

For our quickest response to any after-hours maintenance emergency, please call our primary emergency response number at 336-272-4137. Our secondary emergency number, 336-659-3050, should only be used if there is no answer to your first call.

## 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 1  
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 (Primary #)  
(Secondary 336-659-3050 - Call only if  
primary # is not operating))



Greensboro Housing Authority  
450 North Church Street  
Greensboro, NC 27401-2001

Visit us on the Web at  
[www.gha-nc.org](http://www.gha-nc.org)

## Just for Residents



- ◆ **Kindermusik/Family Time Program:** Weekly sessions for infants to 5 year olds (Parents/guardians MUST attend). Held each Tuesday beginning Jan. 28 from 9:30-10:15am at Claremont Courts and each Friday beginning Jan. 31 from 9:30 am-10:15 am at Pear Leaf.
- ◆ **Super Senior Shape-Up Fitness Class w/Wellness Coach Jameel McGregor:** Held each Tuesday and Thursday beginning Tuesday, Jan. 28, from 9:30-10:30am at Stoneridge.
- ◆ **In need of Emergency Assistance with Rent, Utilities, Food & Clothing:** Contact or stop by Resident Services to pick up a list of agencies and churches in the Greater Greensboro community that may

be able to assist you as funding is available.

- ◆ **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.
- ◆ **Honorable Mention:** Congratulations to Cynthia Moore of Ray Warren Homes for successful completion of the Family Self-Sufficiency Program!!!

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