



Mission

To lead, develop, and execute community-wide strategies that meet the broad range of housing needs for families who cannot otherwise attain conventional housing.

Board Taps A. Fulton Meachem as New CHA CEO



After an extensive nationwide search, A. Fulton Meachem, Jr., formerly with the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh, has been selected by the

CHA Board of Commissioners as the new CHA President and Chief Executive Officer, effective October 1, 2012.

“CHA has become nationally recognized as an innovative, aggressive and financially strong community partner that provides housing to Charlotte’s working poor, elderly, disabled and others who need supportive housing in safe and attractive communities across the city,” said Joel Ford, CHA Board Chair. “We have found a leader who

will build on this foundation and embrace the authority’s vision of becoming a true partner in helping residents achieve the self-sufficiency skills they need to ‘graduate’ from public housing. We want to continue our Moving Forward goals: work requirements, minimum rent initiatives and providing the greatest number of viable and affordable housing solutions from homelessness to permanent housing through sustainable strategic partnerships”.

Mr. Meachem has worked in public housing for more than 18 years and has experience in affordable housing, resident services, and housing operations. Mr. Meachem, serving as the Executive Director of the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh, led a Moving to Work public housing authority

Story continued on page three

In This Issue

PEOPLE

Fulton Meachem Takes the Helm
Page 1, 3

CHASF Scholarship Fund Recipients, Graduates
Page 2

FSS Participant Purchases a Home
Page 4

DEVELOPMENTS

CHA Office Consolidation Has Begun
Page 3

AWARDS

3 NAHRO Awards
Page 3

Charlottetown Terrace Awards
Page 4



Current CHASF recipients. From Left: Amir Moore, Jonneshia Smith, Asia Johnson & Raven McCall.

Ceremony Honors Nine 2012 CHASF Graduates

Nine CHA residents received college degrees with the assistance of the Charlotte Housing Authority Scholarship Fund, Inc. (CHASF) in 2012 and were honored at a recent event.

The names, colleges and degrees received by the graduates in the photo below are (from the left): Back row: Irina S. Shumskaya, UNC Charlotte, Bachelor of Arts in Architecture; LaTavia R. Walker, UNC Greensboro, Bachelor of Arts in African American Studies and History; Janedora M. Danzy, Art Institute of Charlotte, Associate of Applied Science Degree in Photography; Jasmine N. Black, Benedict College, Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry; Lauren C. Morris, East Carolina University, Bachelor of Arts in Communication.

Front Row from left: Lakisha A. Massey, Benedict College, Bachelor of Arts in Child and Family Development; Tamia K. Haygood, Appalachian State University, two Bachelor of Arts Degrees in History, English and Film Studies; Patrice N. Wilson, Central Piedmont Community College, Associate of Arts Degree; Eddie A. Catlin Jr., Hairstyling Institute of Charlotte, Barber/Styling Certification. The CHASF awarded 94 scholarship for the FY13 and is working to secure additional funding so even more scholarships can be awarded.



Scholarship Fund Makes Dreams Come True

The Charlotte Housing Authority Scholarship Fund, Inc. (CHASF) was established in 1983 to provide children of families receiving a rental subsidy from CHA a chance to go to college. In the fall of 2012, 94 teens will receive a CHASF scholarship ranging from \$500 to \$3,400. Four of those recipients recently spoke to the CHA Board of Commissioners.

Amir Moore is a rising senior at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, with a double major in criminal justice and public advocacy. He plans to go to law school and eventually enter politics. His family lives at Southside Homes. He says the CHASF is "where dreams can be obtained." Mr. Moore said he will be the first in his family to graduate from college and that it would not have happened without the CHASF. When speaking to the CHA board he pointed out that only 4% of those in college are African American males while 1 in 3 of those in prison are African American males. He says the CHASF scholarships, mentoring and programs have been helpful in allowing him to be a part of that 4%.

Asia Johnson is a graduate of Harding University and will be a freshman at North Carolina A&T in the fall. She is the first in her family to attend college and has five younger siblings. She plans to major in accounting and hopes to go to graduate school to receive a Master's in Business Administration.

Raven McCall will be a sophomore at Clark Atlanta University in Georgia where she is a Mass Media Communication/Media Arts major. She plans to be a film director. She graduated from high school in Maryland and has one older sister who is in college in Pennsylvania.

Jonneshia Smith recently graduated from Vance High School and will be attending North Carolina A&T in the fall. She plans to have a double major in psychology and business management, and then go to graduate school to study industrial organizational psychology. She is also interested in politics and will be the first in her family to attend college.

**CHASF Annual
Founder's Breakfast
7:30 a.m.
Friday, October 19
Harris Conference
Center**

**Featured Speaker
Dr. Tony Zeiss
President, CPCC**

**For sponsorship & ticket
information, contact Faith
Triggs, 704-572-7987 or
[ftriggs@cha-
scholarshipfund.org](mailto:ftriggs@cha-scholarshipfund.org).**

Staff Efforts Earn CHA Three NAHRO 2012 Awards of Merit

In today's demanding operating and political environments, housing and community development professionals have risen to the challenge to address the needs of income-challenged people. The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) created the Awards of Merit program to give national recognition to member organizations that have found innovative ways of making a difference in the communities and the lives of the people they serve.

Three different programs at CHA received an Award of Merit in 2012.

Section 3 of one federal law requires entities receiving certain types of federal funding work to ensure that some of the jobs created go to low income persons. In a concerted effort to help CHA family heads of household achieve self-sufficiency, CHA redesigned its Section 3 program that now boasts a 44% hire rate over the past 24 months, exceeding federal target of 30%.

In another effort to help families receiving a rental subsidy via CHA become self-sufficient, CHA has partnered with several area non-profits to open the Center for Employment Services (CES) in Charlotte's West Boulevard Corridor. Since opening its

doors in January of 2011, the CES has 65% hire rate for individuals who complete a four-week pre-employment program, and more than 475 individuals have been served in just 12 months.

CHA also received an award for its efforts to merge two complex HUD program funding streams into one development, marking the first time this has ever been done.



From Left: Saul Ramirez, NAHRO CEO, CHA Commissioner Marcia Simpson, CHA Interim COO Shaunte Evans, CHA Section 3 Coordinator Sharbara Ellis, CHA Employment Services Coordinator Chris Campbell and NAHRO President Betsey Martens

Meachem Takes the Helm at CHA Oct. 1, continued

with a \$150M operating budget, 400 employees, 5,000 public housing units, and 5,500 vouchers. He brings to CHA experience in developing community partnerships and strong relationships with the Board, staff, and residents.

"I look forward to working with the Board of Commissioners and the staff of the Charlotte Housing Authority in continuing our efforts to improve the quality of life for our customers," commented Mr. Meachem.

Mr. Meachem was born and raised in Greensboro, NC and resides with his wife Jeanette and two sons, Brannen and Bryce. He is a graduate of North Carolina Central University, with a Bachelor's of Arts degree in Business

Administration. Mr. Meachem has participated on a variety of public boards including Pittsburgh Partnership for Neighborhood Development and the African American Chamber of Commerce of Western Pennsylvania, and is a member of the Public Housing Authorities Directors Association, and the Institute of Real Estate Management.

CHA's Housing Choice Voucher & Client Services Offices will open October 30 at 400 East Boulevard. All remaining offices will relocate to 400 East by year's end.

Board of Commissioners



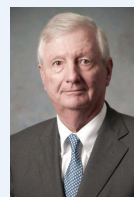
Joel D. Ford
Chairman



David A. Jones
Vice Chairman



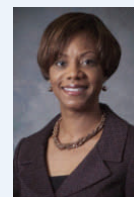
Geraldine Sumter



Benjamin F. Hill



Will Miller



Pamela Gordon



Marcia Simpson

FSS Participant Moves From Subsidized Housing to Home Ownership

In 2008 Jocelyn Segura decided she wanted to be independent and asked to enter into a CHA Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program. In 2012, after receiving a rental subsidy from CHA for more than 10 years, she bought her own home and couldn't be happier. Ms. Segura credits the FSS program for her success. She said her case manager was awesome and provided her the support and advice she needed to achieve her dreams.

Ms. Segura said her road to independence was not easy. She is a survivor of domestic violence. She had both a high school and a college degree in her native country (the Dominican Republic) but the U.S. would not recognize either degree so she had to start over. She was laid off from a good job when the economy got bad. She is a mother to six children and a grandmother to three. Her children range in age from 24-19 and include a set of triplets. Two of her six children still live at home.

Ms. Segura said the FSS program provided her with funding for job training, and a caring and supportive case manager that provided the guidance she needed to overcome her many obstacles to become self-sufficient. She now has a new full-time job that will involve some travel and utilizes her bilingual skills. She plans to return to school again to become an RN.



Charlottetown Terrace Rehab Receives LEED Gold, National Awards

The newly renovated Charlottetown Terrace has been awarded LEED Gold established by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) and verified by the Green Building Certification Institute. LEED is the nation's preeminent program for the design, construction, and operation of high performance buildings. The project goal for Charlottetown Terrace was to create a sustainable and service-enriched environment to improve the quality of life for Charlottetown residents.

"The Charlotte Housing Authority is committed to improving the lives of our residents and using funds to realize cost savings as trustees of the taxpayers' dollars. Charlottetown Terrace will achieve both by providing residents an amenity rich environment that uses green



energy savings strategies that will conserve valuable resources and funds," comment Joel Ford, Chairman of CHA's Board of Directors.

With this LEED Certification, Charlottetown Terrace has accomplished a number of firsts such as the first LEED Gold for a 100% public housing high-rise in the nation, first residential high-rise in North Carolina, and the first certified LEED Gold project for CHA.

In addition, Charlottetown Terrace has been named the Multi-Family Community of the Year by *Multi-Housing News* and will receive awards in both the "Green" and "Renovation" categories of the awards presented annually by *Multi-Family Executive*. "We are delighted that two highly-regarded national publications have selected Charlottetown for recognition," said Mr. Ford.