

President/CEO's Report

Housing Authority Of The City Of Orlando, Florida
Vivian Bryant, Esq., President/CEO
Ed Carson, Chair

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE DESK

Calendar of Upcoming Events

- FAHRO Executive Directors' Forum, Daytona Beach, FL May 15-17, 2012
- FAHRO Annual Convention and Trade Show Lake Buena Vista, FL August 7-10, 2012
- PHADA Legislative Forum Washington, DC September 9-11, 2012



VIVIAN BRYANT, ESQ.
PRESIDENT/CEO

It's May and this month is designated to celebrate mothers. Motherhood is a daunting but very rewarding task. Today, children are being reared by grandmothers, aunts, even older siblings. It all adds up to the same thing. Mothers are there to teach, protect and nurture. When babies are born, we look into their faces and imagine not only their future, but our own. The lives that

families to drop off and pick up their children right in their neighborhood. As the Orlando Housing Authority continues to expand our Moving To Work (MTW) Program, we anticipate hosting more childcare facilities within our public housing communities.

The Orlando Housing Authority in partnership with HEBNI, Nutrition Consultants, the organization which sponsored the KYDS Cooking Club. The program was designed to be a fun, interactive learning experience for children. The children who were involved in the program learned to prepare healthy meals, as well as table etiquette. At the end of the program, dinner was prepared by the students and served to the mothers and fathers in attendance. These are the types of programs and tools that our Agency continues to sponsor in an effort to assist mothers.

we are responsible for today will have an impact on our present and on our future. So, we start by teaching them simple things like "please and thank you." As they grow, we do our best to instill in them the foundation of good morals and values.

It seems as if they grow up so quickly. We treasure the flower made of paper with the wire stem. We partake of the Mother's Day Tea, eating cookies from little hands that may not have been properly washed or sanitized. We eat, or pretend to eat eggs and pancakes brought to us with all the pride and excitement that a small child can muster. We take as many photographs at the kindergarten graduation as we do when they walk across the stage in a collegiate commencement ceremony. My treasure box is filled with handprints and ornaments made with Popsicle sticks. As a mother, these are more valuable than the gifts I receive now from my adult child. Do I love my iPod from last mother's day? Yes. Am I ecstatic over the gift certificate for a full spa day and massage? Yes. I am. But when I open that treasure box, and relive the look on my child's face when I was presented with those homemade gifts, it is priceless and timeless.

In today's economy, many of our mothers have to enter the workforce. The Orlando Housing Authority has endeavored to help mothers and fathers by providing daycare alternatives. Currently, two of our public housing sites hosts childcare facilities. This makes it easier for

I have no doubt that the person I am today has much to do with my mother. My mother is no longer with me. As I celebrate with my own child on Mother's Day, reflections on how and who my mother was quickly fill my thoughts. So, my challenge is to make sure that I provide the foundation that I had, and even greater to the person who calls me Mom. I don't face this challenge alone. It is faced by every mother who is blessed with the gift of children.

As a mother we have a constant audience. The little faces of boys and girls watch every move we make. My grandmother often said, "If you want your children to read, read to them. If you want your children to sing, sing to them. If you want your children to pray, pray with them." So, mothers be mindful of the words that you speak and the example that you set., modeling yourself on the gifts given to you. I applaud mothers for the work that you do.

**Have a wonderful
 Happy Mother's Day!**

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Board of Commissioners' Meeting

The Orlando Housing Authority Board of Commissioners will hold its regular Board Meeting, Thursday, May 17, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at the OHA's Administration Building, Board Room, 390 N. Bumby Avenue, Orlando, FL 32803. The Board will convene a Public Hearing on a proposed amendment of the Authority's Moving to Work (MTW) Plan for Year 2 (4/1/12 to 3/31/13)

Orlando Housing Authority residents interested in attending the meeting who need transportation, and/or have special needs, please call the Community Affairs and Communications Department at (407) 895-3300, extension 6001.

IDENTITY THEFT WORKSHOP



The Orlando Housing Authority's (OHA) Moving to Work Department (MTW), in conjunction with CredAbility, held an Employability Workshop on Identity Theft March 22, 2012. The purpose for this workshop was to inform residents that some employers are checking credit reports as part of the background checks. The workshop included information on the following: tips on how to protect identity, steps to take if identity is stolen, and how identity theft occurs.

CredAbility offers a wide range of courses and programs to help people meet financial challenges. The organization offers classes which include the following topics: managing expenses, credit and debt, saving and future planning, dealing with bankruptcy, buying a home, and foreclosure advice. OHA is excited about this partnership and all the resources CredAbility provides.



GAME DAY AT LORNA DOONE

Thursday, April 12, 2012, from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., the Lorna Doone Apartments Resident Association held a game day. Residents played bingo with household items as prizes for the winners. The residents who attended thoroughly enjoyed the day, and look forward to hosting other activities where they can have fun, win prizes and fellowship with one another.



Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated Sixth Annual Legends Tea



Congratulations!

Congratulations!

April 28, 2012 from 2:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m. the Resident Association President of Murchison Terrace, Diann Mills, and Vice-President, Margret Experience were recognized at the Delta Omicron Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sixth Annual Legends Tea. Mrs. Mills and Ms. Experience were recognized for their commitment and service to their community. They were each given tea pots in appreciation for their service. Both Mrs. Mills and Ms. Experience are thankful for the opportunity to serve the residents of Murchison Terrace.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT SECTION 3 WORKING FOR YOU

The Orlando Housing Authority is excited to highlight the Section 3 Program for OHA residents and businesses. Section 3 is a Federally mandated program governed by the Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide economic opportunities such as training, employment, and contracting to low and very low income families. Section 3 is a powerful and transformative tool which has the potential to change the lives of residents and families. Although OHA's priority is on the engagement of OHA residents in Section 3 activities, Section 3 eligible participants reside throughout the City of Orlando and Orange County, FL area. The goal of Section 3 is to provide, to the greatest extent feasible, economic opportunities to Section 3 residents through the expenditure of HUD funds provide to the OHA.

Who qualifies as a Section 3 resident?

A Section 3 resident is: 1) a public housing resident; or 2) a low or very low income person residing in the City of Orlando or Orange County, FL area where the Section 3 or HUD funding is expended.

Who qualifies as a Section 3 business?

A Section 3 business is a business that can provide evidence that it meets one of the following criteria: 1) at least 51% of the company or business is owned by Section 3 residents; or 2) at least 30% of its fulltime employees include persons that are currently Section 3 residents, or were Section 3 residents within the last three years; or 3) provides evidence of a commitment to subcontract in excess of 25% of the dollar award of all subcontracts to businesses that meet one of the first two qualifications.

The OHA HUD Section 3 Program is planning various activities and community outreach efforts to assist residents in seeking training, employment, and contracting opportunities. The Section 3 Coordination Office will work in partnership with the Moving to Work (MTW) Resource Center and the Department of Community Affairs in coordinating these activities. OHA has partnered with the City of Orlando, Workforce of Central Florida, and other organizations to provide meaningful experiences for our residents. Efforts in the planning stages include but are not limited to: Section 3 orientations, trainings, workshops, and small group sessions on topics such as construction apprenticeships, resume building, and interviewing skills. Residents will also be offered access to register for participation in the Training and Development Center, a service provided by Manpower Group, currently an OHA service provider.

In order to better understand the needs of our residents, all residents interested in employment and other economic opportunities under Section 3 will be required to complete a self-sufficiency assessment. The Section 3 Coordination Office will work in conjunction with the MTW and Community Affairs Department to collect this information. A registry will be used to match potential employment and economic opportunities.

For more information regarding Section 3, please contact Section 3 Coordinator, Cynthia Curry at Orlando Housing Authority, 390 N. Bumby Ave. Orlando, FL, Phone: (407) 895-3300 Ext: 4008. Email Address: Cynthia.Curry@orl-oha.org. Also visit OHA's website for more information: www.orl-oha.org/

Ode to Mothers

By: Kristin F. McKendall
Mothers are human, and
can only do so much.

**Mothers cannot do it all
But surely do they try.**

**Mothers hear the angel's call,
To comfort all who cry.**

**Mothers for themselves may fall,
For others they will fly.**

**Mother's bear the weight of all,
For their children, they would die.**

**A Mother's gift extends beyond
All bounds of time and space.**

**Her lovingness and nurturing
Make Earth a peaceful place.**





ORLANDO HOUSING AUTHORITY



390 N. BUMBY AVE
ORLANDO, FL 32803
Telephone: (407) 895-3300
Fax: (407) 895-0820
TDD: (407) 894-9891
Relay #: 711

HUD's Mission Statement: To promote adequate and affordable housing, economic opportunity and a suitable living environment free from discrimination.

Orlando Housing Authority Mission Statement: To offer a choice of safe and affordable housing options and opportunities for economic independence for residents of Orlando and Orange County.

FAIR HOUSING CORNER

WHAT IS FAIR HOUSING?

The Fair Housing Act of 1968 was the last of the Civil Rights Movement's important legislative initiatives passed in the tumultuous 1960's.

Following the passage of Civil Rights Act of 1964, which addressed public accommodations, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which addressed voting rights, the Fair Housing Act of 1968 was passed and signed into law April 11, 1968, just a week after the murder of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It is believed that the assassination of Dr. King was the final event that led to the passage of the Act. The Act is officially known as the Fair Housing Act of 1968. The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in housing on the basis of: race or color, national origin, religion, sex,. The Act makes it unlawful to refuse to rent or sell housing, refuse to negotiate for housing, make housing unavailable, deny a dwelling, set different terms, conditions or privileges for sale or rental of a dwelling, or to provide different housing services or facilities on the basis of race or color, national origin, religion, sex. With the passage of the Fair Housing Amendments in 1988, coverage under the Fair Housing Act was expanded to prohibit discrimination in housing practices based on disability and familial status. The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 established design and construction requirements for multi-family housing (consisting of four or more dwelling units) built for first occupancy after March 13, 1991. In summary, the 1988 amendments accomplished the following:

- ◆ Barred discrimination in the sale or rental of housing on the basis of a disability, and requires the design and construction of new covered multifamily dwellings to meet certain adaptability and accessibility requirements.
- ◆ Barred discrimination in the sale or rental of housing because there are children in a family, but exempts housing for older persons, e.g., Section 202 housing.
- ◆ Modified the definition of a discriminatory housing practice to include acts of interfering, coercing, threatening or intimidating a person in the exercise or enjoyment of his/her rights as protected by Sections 804, 805 and 806 of this Act
- ◆ Provided HUD with the ability to initiate complaints.
- ◆ Provided an aggrieved person one year after an alleged discriminatory housing practice in which to file a complaint with HUD, and two years to file a complaint in court.
- ◆ Required HUD to complete a Title VIII investigation and conciliation efforts within 100 days after the filing of the complaint,

unless it is impracticable to do so. HUD can also seek preliminary or temporary relief including temporary restraining orders where such actions are necessary to carry out the purpose of the Act.

- ◆ Provided HUD with new enforcement authority for handling complaints of discrimination in the sale or rental of housing.

For a complete list of Fair Housing Amendments, please visit www.howardfairhousing.org

