

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

- NAHRO Legislative Conference
 Washington, DC
 March 17-20, 2013
- FAHRO Executive Director's Retreat
 Miami, FL
 May 7-9 2013
- PHADA Annual Convention and Exhibition
 San Antonio, TX
 May 19-22, 2013



VIVIAN BRYANT, ESQ.
 PRESIDENT/CEO

It is March and many of the colleges in our state are on spring break. Although the weather in Florida is still somewhat cool, spring breakers are clad in their bathing suits and theme parks are bursting at the seams. In just a few months many of these students will be graduating from college. I do not consider them as the hope of the future; they are

scanners and email has assisted us in decreasing the amount of paper that we use. Having to find ways to conserve has sparked the creativity of our staff. Recommendations from all departments have come into my office detailing how we can save. I am sure that we will have to continue to find ways to conserve, but at the same time I am filled with hope.

I was made aware that the birthstones for the month of March are aquamarine and bloodstone. These stones symbolize courage. As President/CEO I will take courage in the fact that though the times are tough, we will survive. I am not familiar with this poet, but I was encouraged by her words.

the hope of today.

These educated bright young graduates will enter into the workforce. They have spent four years or more pursuing the degree of their choice. Now, it is show time. However, many of them will face an uphill battle in the days ahead. They are not alone. In light of the state of our economy, the Orlando Housing Authority, too, is working to continue to provide affordable housing to our families. We will continue to tighten our belts and ensure that our residents and participants receive excellent service.

As a part of our effort to tighten our belts, the Orlando Housing Authority is streamlining our application and recertification processes. As President/CEO, I have made a commitment to use the technology that is available to service our residents, participants and landlords. Our staff will continue to look for ways to serve even better in light of the challenges that we face.

As a part of our Moving To Work (MTW) demonstration, we have streamlined our inspection process. This allows our inspectors to conserve energy by focusing on one area at a time. The use of

*Look ahead with courage
 And hope to get the best
 For life is full of hard
 And bitter kinds of test*

*So don't feel bored or tired
 Or even fall and mope
 But go on and try to get
 All you want with hope*

*And do it all dear
 With courage and zest
 And know that life is
 An ongoing test.*

Seema Chowdhury



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Board of Commissioners' Meeting

The Orlando Housing Authority Board of Commissioners will hold its Board Meeting, Thursday, March 21, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at the OHA's Administration Building, Board Room, 390 N. Bumby Avenue, Orlando, FL 32803.

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 6100.

MAYOR DYER'S 8th ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY SUMMIT



The Resident Association Presidents of the Orlando Housing Authority participated in the City of Orlando's annual Neighborhood and Community Summit held at the Doubletree Hotel by Hilton Saturday, February 23, 2013. They participated in a day of workshops where they gathered a lot of useful information that focused on how to access services and resources in the City of Orlando. They networked with other community-based organization leaders and enjoyed a luncheon with Mayor Buddy Dyer. The purpose of this annual Summit is to bring neighborhood and community leaders together to learn, to networking and to share.

Workforce Readiness Training Schedule

March 21, 2012
10:00 a.m.-12 p.m.
Top Talent

April 25, 2013
10:00 a.m.-12:p.m.
Top Talent

May 23, 2012
10:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.
Manpower

TRAINING LOCATION
Ivey Lane Resource Center
24 Fanfair Avenue
Orlando, FL 32811

**For more information about the
training program, contact the OHA Sec-
tion 3 Coordination Office at
407-895-3300 x4003, x4008 or x6012.**

Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

TRIP TO THE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Friday, March 8, 2013, seventy-one (71) residents from the Orlando Housing Authority traveled to the educational Strawberry Festival held in Plant City, Florida. They learned about the production of strawberries and vegetables in the State of Florida. Overall, the residents had a great time learning about Florida's resources and were able to bring strawberries home from the festival.





ORLANDO HOUSING AUTHORITY



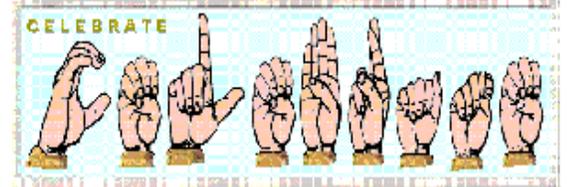
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Relay #: 711

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

I Can “Hear” You... It’s Deaf History Month



March is Deaf History Month. It's about recognizing the deaf people in our community as well as looking back at the achievements of pioneers in deaf culture.

The National Association of the Deaf (NAD) urges everyone to recognize and celebrate March 13 - April 15 as National Deaf History Month. This month includes three key moments in American History for the Deaf community: (1) the “March 13, 1988 Deaf President Now” protest, (2) the April 8, 1864 signing of the Gallaudet University charter by President Abraham Lincoln, and (3) on April 15, 1817, the establishment of the American School for the Deaf in Hartford, CT as the first permanent public school for the deaf.

Each of these seminal events represents significant advancements for deaf and hard of hearing people in the United States. The establishment of the American School for the Deaf was the beginning of a long proud tradition of schools for the deaf in this country, which continues to this day. Preservation of these schools is of paramount importance to the community. Gallaudet University is a central icon within the community, representing the only university in the world that is solely for deaf and hard of hearing students. March 13 represents the day that the deaf community seized its fate during the Gallaudet University “Deaf President Now” movement when Gallaudet selected its first Deaf President.

Gallaudet University



The NAD urges the United States government and states as well as local organizations and libraries to officially recognize Deaf History month to bring awareness and appreciation of deaf culture, heritage and American Sign Language to the general public.

To help those who are deaf and hearing impaired, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) posts videos on YouTube and Facebook educating deaf and hard-of-hearing consumers about their fair housing rights, housing counseling services, and loan programs offered by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA). All videos encourage viewers to contact HUD by visiting its website, www.hud.gov for help or more information.

Sources: www.hud.gov and www.nad.org

Fact: Sign language is the fourth most used language in the U.S.