

## **Tina Akers Brown, CEO of Greensboro Housing Authority, To Retire**



Greensboro Housing Authority (GHA) has announced that Chief Executive Officer, Tina Akers Brown, will retire on June 30, 2020.

Akers Brown started her career in 1979 working for the CETA Programs at Opportunities Industrialization Center and Salem College from 1979 to 1988. Her housing career began at the Fairmont/Morgantown Housing Authority in 1985, as a Section 8 Coordinator and was promoted to Executive Director in 1988. Becoming actively involved in the housing industry, she served as the only African American President, to date, of the West Virginia Association of Housing Authorities from 1993 to 1995.

She came to Greensboro Housing Authority (GHA) in 1996 as the Director of Housing Services. In 1998, she was promoted to Deputy Director for Operations, ultimately becoming CEO in 2001. Her service and leadership of the agency are historic, as she is the first African-American CEO and the longest-serving CEO in GHA's history.

With over 35 years of progressive management experience in the affordable housing industry, she serves at the helm of the largest affordable housing provider in Greensboro, and the third-largest in North Carolina, serving over 12,000 residents and over 6,000 units of housing.

Akers Brown's strategic leadership has changed the face of public and affordable housing for the city of Greensboro, where she has been skilled at adapting and leading the organization and its staff into the future. Under her leadership, she oversaw the HOPE VI Initiative, a \$22.9 million grant—with an additional \$78 million in leveraged funds—to demolish and revitalize the former site of Morningside Homes with 495 subsidized units of on-site and off-site mixed-finance affordable housing, Willow Oaks. She has been instrumental in the acquisition and construction of over 300 additional affordable units to add to Greensboro's affordable housing stock. Currently, she is leading the process of building Greensboro's first affordable housing units that will serve veterans AND their families.

During Akers Brown's tenure, the Housing Choice Voucher Program increased the number of available vouchers from 1,300 to 3,500—expanding their reach to improve services geared toward specific groups such as the homeless, disabled, veterans, and persons with HIV/AIDS.

Most recently, Akers Brown implemented the Department of Housing and Urban Development Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program to preserve aging public housing communities through the leverage of public and private debt to reinvest in affordable housing. Since 2013, GHA has completed over \$43 million in renovations to over 1,700 units of public housing through RAD.

Akers Brown is a member of the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities (CLPHA). Additionally, she has been actively involved with the Southeastern Regional Council (SERC) of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO). She has served in many SERC roles, including SERC president from 2005 to 2007. During her tenure, she was committed to growing the organization and started the *SERC 40 Under 40* Leadership Initiative. She served on the NAHRO Board of Governors from 2003 to 2009, participated on several committees and task forces and became a NAHRO Fellow in 2009.

Akers Brown is married to William Brown and is the mother of two children, Natasha Olsson and Tronia Shade, and is blessed with two more children, Kenyatta Garrett and Jallon Croskey. She is also the grandmother to seven grandchildren, Reggie, Tyra, Malachi, Mekhi, Elijah, Sebastian, and Toryn.