

Deadline Approaching For Youth Poster Contest

The deadline is May 3 for GHA youth to register and get their posters ready for the 2013 "What Home Means to Me Poster Contest."

The competition, which is open to all Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Program youth, is divided into three age groups--Elementary (K-Grade 5), Middle (Grades 6-8) and High (Grades 9-12).

"I hope all youth will participate, because this is a great opportunity for them to express themselves and to learn," said Client Services Coordinator Sabrina Abney.

Art workshops for the contest are scheduled for April 8-May 1 at the Boys & Girls Clubs in Smith Homes, Ray Warren Homes and Hickory Trails. Youth in Claremont Courts and Hampton Homes will be able to participate in the workshops, as well, and will be notified when a date has been scheduled. The workshops, offered through the Atelier Around the World Youth Program, will take place each Monday beginning April 8 at Smith Homes, every Tuesday beginning April 9 at Ray Warren and every Wednesday beginning April 10 at Hickory Trails. All workshops will begin at 4 pm and end at 5:15 pm.

The entries will be judged locally with the winner getting \$100, second place \$50, third place \$25 and honor-

2013 What Home Means To Me Poster Contest

Attention youth in grades K-12th who live in Public Housing ... Create a poster of what home means to you and you could win these cool prizes:

- \$100 Gift Card-1st Place
- \$50.00 Gift Card-2nd Place
- \$25.00 Gift Card-3rd Place
- \$15.00 Gift Card-Honorable Mention

Contest Ends May 3, 2013.

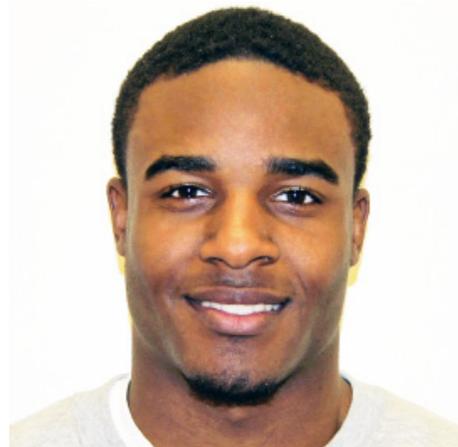
For more information or to pick up supplies, call Sabrina Abney at 303-3003.

(1st place, 2nd place, 3rd place & honorable mention will be awarded by Elementary, Middle and High School grade categories.)

able mention \$15. GHA winners will go on to the state competition, then to NAHRO for the national finals where the national winners will get an additional \$100 and recognition at a NAHRO conference.

Each entry must be accompanied by a short paragraph explaining what home means. Though all youth are encouraged to attend the workshops, limited art supplies and entry forms may be picked up at management offices for those unable to attend.

For more information, please contact Abney at 303-3003.



Youth Wins Scholarship

Hampton Homes resident Rayshaun Mayfield, a senior at Grimsley High School, has won a four-year football scholarship to NC A&T University.

Mayfield, who lives with his grandmother Marion Washington, was selected to the 2012 All Metro Conference team as linebacker.

“Community Service” Required

Residents of Public Housing must contribute eight hours of community service or self-sufficiency activity per month as part of their lease requirements.

The mandate applies to all adults. Residents with jobs or who are in school are exempt, along with the elderly, disabled or families with small children.

Please coordinate all community service activities with your housing manager.

“Just about any volunteer work could qualify,” Chief Operating Officer Erica Moore said, “including work with local service agencies, schools, hospitals, senior centers and other

non-profit organizations.”

“There are many ways in which this requirement can be met,” she said.

Those who get behind on their hours will be allowed to make up the time by entering into a formal agreement with GHA to do the work over a 12-month period, while keeping up with the present year’s hours.

Those who fail to fulfill the requirement will have their lease terminated.

Joining the Family Self-Sufficiency program, with its classes, workshops and other activities, is another way to fulfill the requirement.

Valentines Day Fun



Gateway Plaza residents celebrated Valentines Day with food, games, raffles and time together.

The event was organized by the Resident Council and UNCG’s social work interns.

“We love getting together and enjoying each other’s company,” said Resident Council President Josephine Chavis. “It gives us seniors something to do and keeps us occupied and happy.”

Longtime resident Sharon Davis said events like this one “brings the community together.”

“I would like to see more events created by residents,” she said. “We are very creative.”



OUTSTANDING - Kiara Crews (left), K'Janai Berry, Symeon Davis and Tyrone Humphries were honored recently by the Optimist Club.

Students Win Awards

Four GHA youth received “good citizenship” awards recently from the Greensboro Optimist Club, two of them winning \$1,000 college scholarships.

They were honored “for their activities in their community, school and home.”

Symeon Davis, 14, of Hampton Homes and K'Janai Berry, 16, of Claremont Courts won the scholarships. Tyrone Humphries, 16, of Woodberry Run and Kiara Crews, 14, of Hickory Trails received certificates of good citizenship.

Criteria for the awards included a positive attitude, a willingness to help others and activity in the community.

Claremont Residents Hope to “Raise A Reader”

How old were you when you first learned to read?

If it was at an early age, then chances are it helped with your development and was a critical part of success in school.

That’s the idea behind the “Raising A Reader” program that’s bringing Claremont Courts residents together with their young children for regular “book cuddling” time. They’re also expecting the process to help with parent-child bonding.

The program, which hopes to “build a bridge from the home to the school to the library,” rotates bright red bags filled with childrens books into homes on a weekly basis, providing children with up to 100 different books per year—all of them award-winners.

Program officials hope the constant variety will keep youngsters engaged and build up reading skills. They also hope the process will instill a love of literature that will last a lifetime.

The new literacy effort is being offered through the community’s “Thriving at 3” program, which works with the United Way of Greater Greensboro to begin child development at an early age.



2013 Agency Plan Outlines New Policy Changes

New policy changes that will streamline operations and cut through some red tape for residents are outlined in GHA’s 2013 Agency Plan.

The plan, which sets out goals and operating plans for the year, calls for changes in both Public Housing and the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Programs, including how GHA annualizes income for those whose income fluctuates during the year.

“It will save employees some paperwork, and it’s a time-saver for residents,” said Vice President of Administration Bob Lawler.

Instead of filling out new paperwork every time their income changes, residents will be allowed to file just once a year, taking the fluctuations into account, he said.

Other changes include streamlining the way rent is calculated, resident assets are certified and payment standards are set. In the HCV Program, families with

a disabled member will be exempt from moving restrictions and receive considerations under reasonable accommodation rights.

Changes to the ACOP will allow lease termination for residents who remain in their unit after giving written notice that they will be moving, as well as designation of the Hicone Community as a site-based waiting list property.

The new Agency Plan was reviewed by a Resident Advisory Board made up of Resident Council Presidents and HCV Program participants. The Plan has been available for review at GHA’s Central Office, eight Public Housing community offices, the mixed-finance communities, the Greensboro Central Library and the city’s Department of Planning & Community Development. The Agency Plan public hearing was held March 7 at the Hampton Homes Resource Center.

COMMUNITY NEWS is a publication of the Greensboro Housing Authority.

Tina Akers Brown
Chief Executive Officer

Mary Beth Myers
Editor

(336) 275-8501 • Fax (336) 378-1307
www.gha-nc.org

Administrative Office
275-8501

Assisted Housing Office
271-3368

Property Region I
Applewood • Claremont Courts,
Woodberry Run • Lakespring Court
Baylor Court
274-3491

Property Region II
Hampton Homes • Hickory Trails • Woodland Village
Abby Court
274-3236 • 297-2114

Property Region III
Smith Homes
273-3688

Property Region IV
Pear Leaf • Ray Warren,
Laurel Oaks • Silverbriar • Riverbirch • Foxworth
275-6995

Property Region V
Gateway Plaza • Hall Towers • Stoneridge
275-9892 • 272-7869

Housing Choice Voucher
Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) / Homeownership
303-3079 • 271-2546

Public Housing Family Self Sufficiency
303-3003 • 303-3009 • 303-3034

Client Services
370-4380

GHA Maintenance Emergencies
272-4137

Ambulance / Rescue / Fire / Police
911

Crime Stoppers
373-1000

Police Non-Emergency
373-2222

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.

Spring 2013
Number 122



Greensboro Housing Authority
450 North Church Street
Greensboro, NC 27401



Resident Council Members Learn Leadership Tools

GHA's Resident Council Executive Board members learned more about dealing with issues of concern, working together, problem-solving and management at a Resident Council Leadership Training seminar March 21.

Other topics included money matters, safety & security, handling elections and methods for staying focused.

The seminar was taught by B. Smith Consulting.

Resident Council elections will be held in November.