

WINTER 2012

HANO

news



FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES SPOTLIGHT

In this issue:
Michael's Award Scholars
A Head Start
Job Training in the Works

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Dear readers;

Thank you for picking up the 2012 Winter Edition of *HANO news*.

As we move closer to our goal of returning HANO to local governance, I must say that I am truly proud of our staff and resident leadership for their determination and commitment to keeping the well being of our residents first. The past three years of the Gilmore Kean LLC receivership has been extremely rewarding and I am proud of the work that we have completed.

David Gilmore, Administrative Receiver

We have decided to use this issue to showcase the extraordinary community supportive services that our Client Services Department spearheads and manages at all HANO properties. From youth after school, financial literacy and educational growth programs to summer enrichment, construction training, and health and fitness activities, our residents are provided more opportunities than ever before.

Namely, last summer the Urban League of Greater New Orleans celebrated the completion of a new Head Start facility in the Desire community giving residents in that neighborhood a place for youth to learn and a community center for resident usage. We also highlight the new Educare facility coming soon to Columbia Parc, and the first thirteen graduates of the Urban Strategies Pre-Apprentice Construction Training Program.

This past summer, our kids participated in the third annual Summer Enrichment Program giving them exciting recreational and educational activities that kept them quite busy. This year, we tried something different by culminating the event with a bang! Congratulations to the Fischer Summer Camp kids for placing first in the Summer Camp Games, and to everyone who participated.

With the launch of HANO's Mobile Computer Lab that will travel to all HANO communities, and the Housing Choice Voucher Program Wait List Portal giving immediate access to applicants' position on the list coming soon, we are on the move! But as I have said in the past, the work is not yet done. There are many milestones left for us to accomplish, but with the commitment of staff, resident leaders and you, the residents, we will reach every goal set by this outstanding agency.

David Gilmore



**CREATING COMMUNITIES.
BUILDING TRUST.**

David Gilmore
Administrative Receiver

Keith L. Pettigrew
Deputy General Manager
for Operations

Leslie Dews
Deputy General Manager
for Administration

Lesley E. Thomas - Editor

Lydia Mulero - Designer, Photographer, & Contributor

4100 Touro St. New Orleans, LA 70122
www.HANO.org • (504) 670-3300



Graduating class of September 2012: Photo by CFreedom Photography

JOB TRAINING IN THE WORKS

HANO and Urban Strategies graduate the first thirteen pre-apprentice students



Building skills: Photo by Urban Strategies, Inc.

HANO and Urban Strategies, Inc. recently celebrated the recent graduates of its Pre-Apprentice Construction Training Program,

hosting a ceremony at the Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center.

The event highlighted successful accomplishments of the 13 students, both men and women, in the first pre-apprentice class focused on developing job skills and attaining construction training. Graduates were elated by a moving and encouraging keynote speech by former New Orleans City Council Member Oliver Thomas.

The morning following graduation, two

former students were hired to begin their new careers immediately. Several other placements are pending, some with hopes of working on the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative projects, slated to start in November.

The program was created in conjunction with HANO and the City of New Orleans' Choice Neighborhoods Initiative to provide education and workforce development opportunities for residents.

During the 12-week program, graduates received hands-on training in carpentry, plumbing, and electrical systems and achieved the following certifications: 21st Century Success Principles Pre-Employment, Pre-Apprenticeship: Facility Maintenance, OSHA-10 for Construction Safety, and CPR/First Aid/AED. As a part of the curriculum, students worked on projects at the Sojourner Truth Neighborhood

Center located in the Faubourg Lafitte community ranging from enlarging a closet, building picnic tables, removing a doorway, the removal of old signs, and painting of the lobby and hallway.

Urban Strategies in partnership with Home Builders Institute developed training courses focused on job readiness skills, construction, and facilities maintenance. Once the course is completed, graduates will have the knowledge and hands-on skills that qualify them to begin a career in construction trades or facility maintenance, and receive a nationally recognized pre-apprenticeship certification in facility maintenance. Other program partners include Lindy Boggs National Center for Community Literacy, YMCA, Louisiana Disaster Recovery Unit, Office of Community Development, and the Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center.

A HEAD START

Urban League opens new Head Start center



The new Head Start center: Photo by Kevin Griffin, 2K PhotoNOLA

The Urban League of Greater New Orleans recently cut a ribbon to celebrate the opening of the new \$2.6 million Head Start facility, ushering new opportunities for residents of the Desire community.

The new facility, named in honor of the longest serving President & CEO of the Urban League of Greater New Orleans, Clarence L. Barney, will offer enrollment to 60 students from the general New Orleans area with 20 program slots for families residing in the Estates. There are also enrollment slots for youth with special needs. The Head Start center will also provide administrative office space, educational resources, exterior recreational areas, food service, community center and parking for staff and visitors. Additional service provisions include fatherhood initiatives, financial literacy, career exploration, interview skills and resume preparation, parent information and training, and entrepreneurial services.

“The new facility should not be looked upon as just a center to serve children, because it is so much more. It is a symbol of positive change and stability that comes from within where the community feels empowered to create their vision, recognizing the importance of working with both public and private sector partners,” said Nolan Rollins, President & CEO of the Urban League of Greater New Orleans.

MICHAEL'S AWARD SCHOLARS

Six students from The Estates receive high honors

This summer HANO Administrative Receiver David Gilmore attended the Michael's Organization Education Foundation 2012 Scholarship Recognition Ceremony to congratulate six students on their accomplishments. Aspiring students Nikita Brown, Lakeisha Eason, Jasmine Jordan, Rochelle Oliver, Kyra Williams, Ke'Shod Winters of The Estates, formally Desire, were awarded educational scholarships with a combined worth of \$38,000 earmarked to benefit residents in communities developed by the Michaels Organization. From single mothers to those first in their family to attend college, the recipients were extremely appreciative of the much needed assistance provided for their educational growth. “We are proud of your accomplishments and wish you well as

you take the next steps in reaching your set goals,” said Receiver Gilmore.

This year, the grant for students at The Estates was the largest private donation ever received by the organization's scholarship fund. The additional funding was a gift from Torti Gallas & Partners, the architectural firm that worked with Michaels on the HOPE IV revitalization of The Estates or new Desire. Scholarships ranging from \$500 to 3,500 were sent directly to the institution of higher learning of the students' choice to use toward educational expenses.



The scholars receive their awards: Photo by the Michael's Organization

Founder and CEO Michael J. Levitt and his wife Patricia Levitt, who established the foundation in 1991, also matched the scholarship fund two-for-one. Since the inception of the program, more than \$2.8 million in scholarships have been awarded benefitting more than 1,300 students. Scholarships are awarded annually and students may reapply each year for continuing grants.

2012 NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME

On October 16, 2012 HANO communities once again observed the National Night Out Against Crime, an event tailored to strengthen relationships between neighbors and law enforcement agencies hoping to decrease criminal activity throughout the City. The Estates (formally Desire) kicked off the night with a youth prayer circle followed by an old fashion hop scotch game and hula hooping. Residents of other HANO communities, B.W. Cooper/Marrero Commons, Faubourg Lafitte, Iberville, Harmony Oaks, Guste Homes, Fischer, Columbia Parc and River Garden joined in the festivities to meet and greet NOPD and HANO PD officers.



AFTERSCHOOL

Lafitte children get new afterschool program

Faubourg Lafitte has partnered with Young Audiences to provide an after school program for the Lafitte children at the Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center. This program mixes art with education, giving them the opportunity to learn school subjects while they learn to how to express their creativity.

Young Audiences brings artist-teachers into the center to teach dance, music, and painting, as well as reading, writing, and mathematics.



*Marching Band practice at Lafitte:
Photo by Austin Shea*

Young Audiences has deployed some creative techniques to help the kids learn. For example, some of the older children have been assigned the task of writing and recording a rap song. As they work on their songs, they will complete writing exercises that help improve their literacy skills.

After their homework sessions, the children break off into separate groups to pursue different art forms. The children attend their core art class on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and get to try different classes on Tuesday and Thursday.

The painting section is taught by artist Jamar Pierre. His work can be seen throughout the Tremé area, including many pillars under I-10 and a mural on St. Peter Claver's church. When he is not working on his own work, Pierre spends his time working with programs like Young Audiences to spread the

love of art to the youth of New Orleans.

Over the next few months, Pierre will teach the Lafitte children about color and introduce them to different mediums. He will also help them paint their own mural. He has worked with Young Audiences for many years, and says that on all the murals it is the children who do 90% of the work. Under his direction, the children will be creating a 12'x 4' piece of art work that will be showcased in the Sojourner Truth hallways for all to see.

Jamar Pierre and Herman Halphen, the music instructor, teach more than just art and music. What they really try to teach the children is confidence. Halphen reminds his drum line that anything they do with him they can do on their own. This is a fact that they prove when he steps away for a minute to let the twelve drummers continue practicing without his direction.

Drum line is one of the most popular sessions at Sojourner Truth. Eventually, the children will form a full marching band, but before Halphen can introduce other instruments, he must focus on creating a strong drum section. With so many children interested in the music program, no one foresees this being a problem.

The thunderous music of the children's drums echo throughout the neighborhood daily. That has been the best form of advertisement, and has generated interest and excitement amongst the children of Faubourg Lafitte. Currently, over 60 children are enrolled in the Young Audiences program, and about 30 attend each day.

On December 19th, the Sojourner Truth Neighborhood Center will host a recital/party to showcase the children's hard work and creative spirit to the community.

- Written by Austin Shea



Lafitte Afterschool Program attendees: Photo by Austin Shea



Kids enjoy sack races during the Summer Camp Games

ENDING THE SUMMER WITH A BANG

HANO offers a variety of activities for community youth and young adults

The Authority's Summer Enrichment Program gives access to a number of exciting, educational, and skill-developing activities for students living in HANO communities. Last summer, Administrative Receiver David Gilmore and the Client Services Department partnered with a host of government, community, and youth organizations to keep hundreds of students busy and productive during the hottest time of the year.

Harmony Oaks, B.W. Cooper, Iberville, The Estates, Faubourg Lafitte, Fischer and River Garden hosted the program for youth ages 4 through 12. Some of the recreational activities included African drumming, yoga, Spanish lessons, arts and crafts, international cooking courses, and dancing. "We've been teaching them basic knowledge and understanding of computer programs like Photoshop and Microsoft Paint," said Harvey Johnson, teacher of graphic design, adding "they catch on quickly." Seven-year-old Jareyell Slaughter says that creating art with her peers has been the favorite part of her summer camp experience.

The groups participated in field trips to Audubon Zoo and the Aquarium, and even visited a few swimming pools. When asked to select a favorite field trip, members of Harmony Oaks

summer camp unanimously agreed that their trip to the zoo was the most enjoyable. "I like the zoo a lot because I got to see a lot of animals. It's fun to watch animals play," said four-year-old Cahreen Cotton.

To culminate the program, four camps competed in HANO's 2012 Summer Camp Games. Members from the Iberville Boys and Girls Club, Fischer, B.W. Cooper and Harmony Oaks summer camps participated in an egg toss, sack race, dodge ball game, obstacle course, and a basketball tournament. Each team had their turn at a game station where points were totaled by camp counselors.

The New Orleans Hornets sponsored jersey give-a-ways, and an award ceremony was held to congratulate the winners of the tournament. Individual awards were distributed by



Summer games winners show off their medals

age group and activity. First, second and third place winners received medals while team trophies were awarded to those with the most points. The Fischer summer camp kids claimed the first place title. Second place was awarded to the kids of B.W. Cooper, while Harmony Oaks finished in third place.

Last summer, HANO also sponsored an eight-week Summer Employment Program for young adults. The program is unique and gives high school and college students the opportunity to work in a professional field of their choice. Students were able to gain hands on experience at law firms, courthouses, pharmacies, restaurants, insurance agencies, community



UPS divers education course

centers and many other work place settings. Life-skills seminars were scheduled for every Friday during the program with guest speakers covering a range of topics such as sex education, money management and job interview skills. Now on its third year of operation, the employment program has seen a steady rise in enrollment. Eddie Scott, client services coordinator says that over 115 teenagers and young adults participated in this year's program.

Driver's education courses were a recent addition to the summer programs. HANO, in partnership with UPS, hosted driving lessons at the NFL YET Center. Participants ages 14 through 21 were taught the rules of the road, how to respond to road rage, and defensive driving. Upon completion of the course, participants were awarded a certificate that allows them to take the official Louisiana Driver's Class. As an added bonus, participants ages 18 through 21 were given the opportunity to apply for employment with UPS.

At the end of the summer, HANO hosted its Third Annual Summer Employment Banquet. The festive event featured a



Gerod Stevens of WBOK with Herman Marigny

rousing speech by radio and television personality, Gerod Stevens of WBOK encouraging youth to stay focused on education and



Emelda Paul and James Williams get down to the Misfits

to work hard to achieve their set goals. "Time to play is over," said Stevens. "Be the best at what you are and who you are."



Shelby White of Rich Fit USA addresses the crowd

James Williams and Shelby White

of Rich Fit USA presented the banquet attendees with the keys to having a successful life. "Put a picture of success in your head and decide not to quit," said White. "Your future is in your hands. Go after your dreams." Williams commanded the audience to remember the three keys to success. "Always study hard and master the information, practice what you study, and be intense and passionate when going after your dreams!"

Summer Employment participants Rinata Williams and Ke'Shod Winters reflected on their experiences while Garland Williams, Jr. performed an original music composition. The program ended with a performance and second line by The Misfits Brass Band.

These services were made possible through third party partnerships with Summer Zone and Community Works of Louisiana and The Boys and Girls Club.



Resident leaders also attended the banquet

EDUCATION FROM THE START

Educare comes to Columbia Parc

Educare of New Orleans began construction in August 2012 on a new \$9 million early education facility that will serve 150 low-income children from birth to five years old. Educare is a proven and successful national early learning model that has consistently increased low-income students' readiness scores for Kindergarten level classes. Educare leverages federal Head Start and Early Head Start dollars into a year-round, high impact, 7 AM to 7 PM education program for its young students and their families.



The new Educare building:
Rendering by RDG Broadmoor

The school will open next spring and will employ sixty teachers and administrators. National Educare officials have stated that Educare of New Orleans, located in the new mixed-income Columbia Parc at the Bayou

District neighborhood in Gentilly, will be the first Educare program in the southern United States and will be the first early education school of its kind in New Orleans.

“Educare of New Orleans will become the centerpiece educational resource in New Orleans’ newly transformed Bayou District neighborhood,” said Bayou District Chairman Gerard Barousse, Jr. ‘We’re particularly excited about the project’s adaptive re-use of three remaining historic buildings that were formerly part of the St. Bernard Public Housing development to create, along with some new construction, our new early learning campus.”

Bayou District Foundation in partnership with national philanthropy ‘Blessings in a Backpack’ and the Fore!Kids Foundation/Zurich Classic of New Orleans helped kickoff ‘Blessings in a Backpack’ at Akili Academy. The academy, located about 10 blocks from Columbia Parc on Pratt Drive, is a highly ranked K-5 charter school. Through the Blessings in a Backpack program Akili students will receive a backpack of fresh food every Friday afternoon during the school year. Harrah’s and Zuppardos are assisting Blessings in a Backpack with the program, which will run through 2013 with the hopes of expansion to other schools in the region.

- Written by JT Hannan of Columbia Parc

RESIDENT LEADER SPOTLIGHT: IRWT

Iberville residents working together to make a difference



IRWT with Administrative Receiver Gilmore at the Iberville Press Conference

The Iberville Resident Working Team (IRWT) have been at the forefront of plans to transform and redevelop their community as a part of the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative. These dedicated resident leaders were elected to provide input into the planning and implementation of the redevelopment of

and Rochelle Trotter have attended leadership and capacity building trainings, the CNI grantee forum, the United Neighborhood Centers of America Conference, and have hosted other resident leaders traveling to New Orleans for insight on the CNI project. The team continues to advise HANO

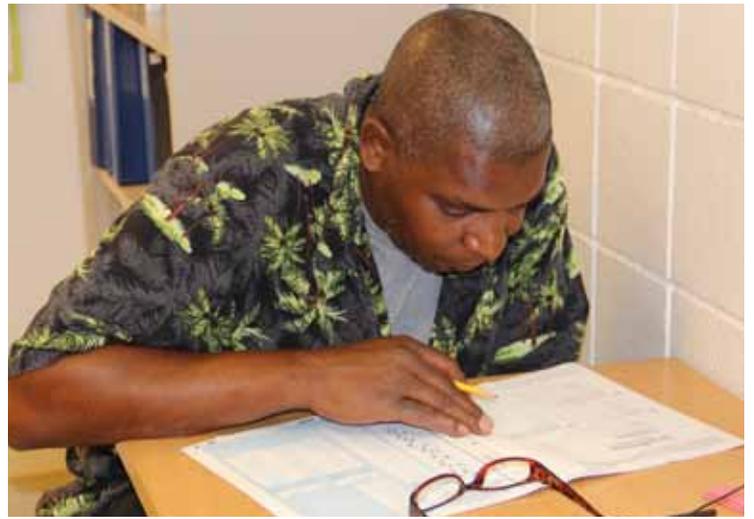
the last conventional public housing facility in New Orleans.

Within the last year the IRWT, which currently consists of Rochelle George, Glenda Graves, Cody Marshall, Elaine Robiho,

and the City of New Orleans on the direction and vision of the project for the residents of the Iberville community while taking on a variety of leadership roles. From hosting regular resident meetings to gathering input for CNI planners, holding voter registration drives and knocking door-to-door during the evacuation of special needs residents when the Pallas hotel was imploded, the IRWT have proven their commitment to their neighbors. They were also instrumental in HANO’s Hurricane Isaac response passing out water, ice and food to elderly and special needs residents of their community.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

A look at some of the Community Supportive Services offered by HANO, including after school care for the kids, adult education courses, health care opportunities, the Neighborhood Watch Program, exercise classes, bible study, and more.





Vendor Opportunity and Resource Fair

HANO HOSTS VENDOR FAIR

Educating vendors on local opportunities

In August, HANO hosted its first Vendor Opportunity and Resource Fair in many years at the University of New Orleans Lindy C. Boggs International Conference Center. The fair connected local, small and disadvantaged businesses with representatives from federal, state and local agencies, workforce and small business development agencies, and financial institutions.

Attendees participated in seminars covering a variety of topics that would assist in enhancing the growth of small businesses. HANO Procurement Department staff began the event by explaining the necessary points on how to do business with the agency, and Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Certification process. Section 3/MWBE Program Coordinator Larry Barabino Jr. provided an overview of HANO's Employment, Training and Contracting Policy established to ensure

that all contracts valued at \$100,000 or greater meet new agency requirements.

Business development, financial empowerment and workforce development seminars were held in conjunction with an exhibition hall. Participating organizations were on hand for one-on-one discussions, and to showcase a listing of current and future vendor opportunities. Training providers also set up discussion tables in the exhibit hall offering assistance on training opportunities to fulfill the necessary requirements.

Representatives from HANO development contractors HRI, McCormack Baron Salazar, Columbia Residential and Providence Enterprise presented current and future construction opportunities.

JT Hannan from Columbia Residential expressed an interest and need for

subcontractors to assist in building the 100 unit, three-story senior building. Columbia Parc recently began rehabilitating historic buildings on site, transforming them into its Educare facility, and will soon begin construction on a healthcare center and school. Josh Collen from HRI properties discussed plans for Iberville's off-site development component starting soon at 1501 Canal Street, subcontracting opportunities are also available.

Other participating organizations included Operation Hope, The U. S. Small Business Administration, Liberty Bank and Delgado Community College, New Orleans Sewerage and Water Board, Capital Access Project, U. S. Minority Business Development Agency and many more.

Following the fair, fourteen new vendors registered to do business with HANO.

MY EXPERIENCE

How the Summer Youth Program helped me achieve my goals

by Ashley Fleming, Communications Intern

At a young age I discovered that I was creative but not very analytical. While math and science often confused me, art and creativity intrigued me. From different types of art and crafts to writing and sewing, I was willing to try it all. Some experiments turned out well and at other times, I was scrubbing play dough out of my mother's carpet. In my pre-teen years, fashion design became my passion, but I struggled with the fear of having a job in a creative field without financial security. I eventually decided to attend college and major in Mass Communications with a concentration in media advertising hoping to achieve a successful career that would still allow for creativity.

In August 2010 I started college at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and immediately realized it would be very expensive. Paying for tuition, textbooks, and other expenses can be difficult even with the help of scholarships. By the second week of school, I was plotting my escape. "I'll just join a hippie commune after I drop out," I would say. Of course I did not drop out, but by the summer I realized that my sophomore year would have to be different. I needed extra money to pay my increased tuition, I needed a summer job!

I applied for the HANO Summer Employment Program and was immediately accepted. Even though I would prefer to spend the summer on my mom's couch, with a bowl of macaroni permanently glued in my hand as I watched *How I Met Your Mother* re-runs, I realized that paying school fees was more important, so I went to work.

I was assigned to the Communications Department as a summer intern. My primary assignment was to write stories for the agency newsletter. The easy part was the writing, but the hardest part was interviewing resident leaders and families for stories. I have never really been a fan of talking on the phone and sometimes I felt nervous and began to stutter. After a few disastrous interviews it became a little easier.

As a part of the Program I was also required to attend life-skills classes, while not the most fun, are always informational. Topics such as money management, career training, education counseling, and sex education are usually covered.

When the summer ended, I returned to school with enough

money to pay the fees that my scholarships did not cover. The first semester of my sophomore year, I enrolled in a news writing class. I watched some of my peers struggle and wondered why I was breezing through. Soon I realized that my summer at HANO writing articles helped me develop great journalism skills. As older folks say, I reaped the academic as well as financial benefits from my summer job. I was exempt from my final exam and finished the semester with my 'A' clutched tightly to my side. As summer approached, I could not wait to return to work at HANO.

This time around I was excited to give up my free summer. There was one noticeable difference; my work load had increased slightly. In addition to writing for the newsletter, I was also asked to monitor both print and online media for HANO related stories. Reading the newspaper can be both tedious and entertaining while online media monitoring is more pleasant because it includes internet surfing. I also organized the office which helped me become more detail oriented and focused.

Again, there were more life skills classes for me to attend. This time around they were a bit more fun. I witnessed an epic rap battle between two aspiring young rappers during our first session. Other sessions focused on teaching us how to dress and interview for future career opportunities.

I ended the summer writing this narrative on my experiences while working at HANO. I must say, this internship gave me the benefit of earning money to pay my tuition, padded my resume with real life experiences, and connected me with very important contacts. I also realized that I can be creative and achieve financial stability in a field that I enjoy. I have learned independence and how to set both long and short term goals. But most of all, I was extremely surprised that I could accomplish all of these things and have fun at the same time.

So thank you HANO for the great experience!



Ashley Fleming at the 2012 Summer Youth Employment banquet

MOVING HOME

HANO residents purchase their dream homes



Irsha Green with her children Myriana, Tania, and Kentrell

For three former HANO residents, 2012 was the year their dreams came true. Irsha Green, Alicia Bordere, and LaShawn Steptore all finalized the purchase of new homes, after completing the HANO Home Ownership Program.

In the true spirit of the program, each resident had her own unique journey to becoming a first time home buyer. Each was able to utilize different options HANO's program offers that would best suit their individual needs.

All three agreed that one of the most important benefits of the program is the educational classes. In the Financial Fitness course, they learned how to budget family and home care expenses while saving money. They also stated that the home buyers class, which walked attendees through the complicated process of choosing and purchasing a home, was very helpful. "Buying a home on your own can be intimidating," said Green of her limited knowledge of the process before entering the program. "But the Home Ownership Program was a blessing. So many people helped me and were so nice to me through the entire process."

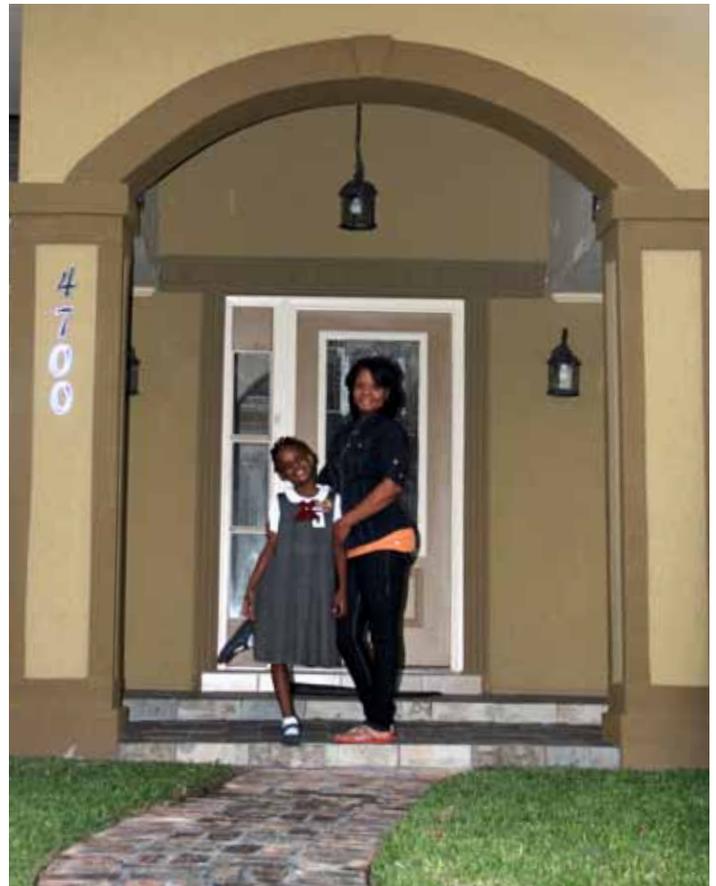
One consistent eye opener for them was the level of responsibility for the upkeep of the property. They no longer have the luxury of calling a landlord about the broken windowpane or leaky ceiling. However, this was seen as

a positive situation. Steptore said, "It is a better feeling to accomplish something for myself." She added, "The responsibility that comes with owning a home makes a person more confident." Steptore also appreciated the valuable assistance from the Home Ownership Program team.

Although they have hardly settled into their new homes, they are encouraging others to join the program "I feel like they should go for it," said Bordere. "HANO is a blessing to help you along the way and I do not see any negative side to joining the program because you are essentially renting with the opportunity to buy."

Smiling while sitting in her beautiful new living room, Bordere had an idea. "I know what the slogan should be," she exclaimed. "Why rent a home, when you can buy your own?" HANO staff members could not agree more.

For more information about the Home Ownership Program visit www.hano.org or call Home Ownership Project Manager Audrey Williams at (504) 235-7679.



Alicia Bordere with daughter Jia Dillon

HURRICANE ISAAC: A PLAN IN MOTION

HANO's response to a familiar emergency

Long before Hurricane Isaac formed, HANO's Crisis Decision Team (CDT) had been preparing for the possibility of a storm, a normal practice during hurricane season. The team compiles contact information, prepares evacuation plans, and gathers non-perishable food items and water to stage when a storm threatens New Orleans.



Storm Track: The Weather Channel

while the Communications and Client Services Departments worked hand in hand distributing emergency safety information. An emergency phone number was also created which is activated only during the approach of a storm.

As a part of normal emergency preparations, HANO PD visited each community beginning in the Spring to discuss individual preparedness, registering seniors and special needs residents for the City Assisted Evacuation Plan (CAEP),

Once Isaac was on its way the HANO office closed for staff to prepare their families, but a special team of staff members comprising of department heads, security, maintenance, and resident leaders remained to watch over HANO residents and facilities. "Essential employees continuously checked in with resident leaders and seniors to make sure everyone was safe and taken care of as the storm approached the Louisiana coast," said Administrative Receiver David Gilmore.

HANO staff also worked with the local Restaurant Depot to secure additional needed items. HANO staff worked closely with the American Red Cross, Second Harvest Food Bank, the Louisiana Department of Homeland Security, and third party property management teams to ensure that all residents were prepared to shelter in place.

Immediately after the storm blew over, the Crisis Decision Team, and resident leaders worked with local organizations, churches, and Council member Stacy Head to provide essential items during the significant power outage that lasted for days. The staff also surveyed damages at each community and HANO Administration building.

When all was said and done, the CDT was confident in the success of the plan and response. Residents were happy with the quickness of the response, with some resident leaders expressing their gratitude of not being forgotten.

Congratulations!

HANO would like to acknowledge and honor the employees who have served for extended years. Your dedication and commitment has helped HANO grow and successfully meet its mission. This year HANO has 16 employees with over thirty years of service! Mr. Gilmore and the entire HANO workforce commend and congratulate you.

30 years

Jeffery Wilson

31 years

Terri Henderson
Zelda Taylor

32 years

Iris Conerly
Rory Biagas
Catherine West
Jim Adams

34 years

Myrna Leufroy-
Angelain

35 years

Calvin Johnson

36 years

John Gordon

38 years

O'Neal Byrant
Edith Kennedy

39 years

McArthur Samuels

40 years

Roy Milton

41 years

Alvin Johnson

44 years

Bertrand Butler, Jr.

FATHER'S DAY

HANO celebrates dads across the city

In June of every year, families gather to celebrate the contributions fathers bring to their lives. This past year HANO communities partnered with a variety of agencies and organizations to host their annual Father's Day celebrations. The celebratory gatherings are a part of The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) National Fatherhood Initiative.

"Here at HANO, we believe that it is important to celebrate the roles fathers play in their family and community," said Administrative Receiver David Gilmore. "This agency is committed to forming strong community bonds."

The central theme for the celebrations was *Taking Care of Business*. Each community provided services and activities for fathers that would foster life skills and encourage self-sufficiency.



Tulane Community Health Center provides program information

Over 200 residents gathered to pay tribute to Iberville dads. Food and refreshments were provided for those in attendance. The City of New Orleans issued the Official Louisiana Hurricane Survival Guide to residents involved while community-based organizations Total Community Action (TCA), Tulane Health Clinic, YMCA Educational Services (YES!), Voter Registration, and Urban Strategies informed fathers of the many opportunities available through their services. Attendees were encouraged to enroll in a variety of community services. Additionally, residents received a raffle ticket for each program they enrolled in, and the winner received a brand new bicycle.

The B.W. Cooper community also gathered to celebrate the



Fathers Day celebration at Iberville

occasion. Fifty-five fathers and their children participated in the celebratory cookout that included a variety of food, cake

and an assortment of drinks. Residents heard from guest speaker, Brother Willie Muhammad, senior instructor of the Youth Empowerment Project. Brother Muhammad spoke



Attendees receive vendor information

to fathers about the importance of being responsible parents and positive role models. As a parting gift, each participant received a Wal-Mart gift card.

Residents at Harmony Oaks joined the Father's Day celebration as well. Twenty-three residents participated in a festive cookout and received free haircuts, credit counseling, and financial advice from a host of professionals. Local pastor and community leader Greg Gratler spoke to fathers about the benefits and responsibilities of fatherhood. Sixth District Police Commander Robert Bardy was in attendance to give

participants useful crime prevention tips.



Black Men of Labor volunteers

Overall, the Father's Day celebrations were successful in connecting fathers and children with their communities. Fathers received a variety of tools and resources to better their families and communities.

IN MEMORIAM

Lamika Monique Downs, a very special member of the Iberville community, entered into eternal rest on September 8th, 2012. Lamika was born to Chemeka Downs and Lionel Caston but was raised by her grandmother Kim Piper. She is survived and remembered by a host of relatives and friends, and the HANO community-at-large.

Lamika managed to fulfill many of her dreams including having a Alice in Wonderland tea party, walking in a fashion show, being in a photo shoot for America's Next Top Model, and traveling to many new places.



CRIME PREVENTION CORNER

HOLIDAY EDITION

With the holidays just around the corner, the HANO Police Department would like to share very important tips to eliminate the opportunity for criminal activity to occur in your neighborhood.

Holiday Trips or Vacations

Before leaving home for a weekend trip or extended vacation, make sure all doors and windows are locked. Contact a trusted neighbor or family friend and ask them to collect your mail daily. Do the same if you receive a daily newspaper or cancel the service during your travel time.

Do not display holiday gifts where they can be seen from a window or doorway. Always employ the same routine with blinds and curtains. If your routine is to close them during normal days make sure you do the same while traveling.

Turn on interior lights or install an automatic timer on table lamps. Have a neighbor or family member watch your house and ask them to park his or her vehicle in the driveway from time to time.

Mark your valuables with your driver's license number. If your valuables are stolen local police have the ability to trace the property back to you. A local hardware or home improvement store has several items reasonably priced to mark valuables.

Use only fire resistant ornaments or lights on a holiday tree and make sure electric lights are in good working order. Do not leave the lights on overnight or when traveling. Before purchasing or using old lights, be sure that they are "UL Approved." This stands for Underwriters Laboratory, and they have been tested by scientist and approved for safe usage.

If you have family visiting, explain your "in case of an emergency" plan and make sure they understand and follow it. Do not forget to give them a list of emergency contact numbers.

Shopping

Start your shopping early in the season to avoid the rush.

Organize shopping trips with friends and shop during daytime hours. Avoid parking in an unlit lot or area no matter how convenient it may seem.

Bring packages and gifts to your vehicle as your hands become full. When exiting the mall or store, wait for a moment to scan the parking lot for any potential threats. If you do not feel safe ask a security guard to assist you. Place your purchased items in your trunk! Do not place them in the back seat of the vehicle under a blanket or towel.

Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Pay for purchases with a check, credit card, or debit card when possible. Most businesses will scan your check, verify correct identification and return the check back to you. If the clerk does not return it, remind her to do so.

Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Your purse should only be large enough for the personal items needed. All cash, credit and debit cards should be stored in the front pocket. Be sure to carry the purse under your arm only. If the purse has a long strap, the strap should hang on your weak shoulder (non-writing hand across your body) with the purse in front of your body near your strong hand.

Teach your children to find a store clerk or security guard if they become separated from you. If you become separated in the common area of the mall remain in the last place they saw you. They should never go into a parking lot alone. Always remember to describe the difference between a good stranger and a bad stranger.

Holiday Party Safety

Under no circumstances should anyone drink and drive! Use this time to enjoy the holidays and time off from school and work. Enjoy parties with family and friends and stay safe!

Happy Holidays!

Keep an eye out for future issues of HANO news, the Crime Prevention Corner is a permanent feature educating readers on important safety tips.

NEWS BULLETIN

HCVP Wait List Portal

Applicants currently on the wait list will have the opportunity to check their status or position at www.hano.org, effective November 2012. Call the HCVP hotline for details at (504) 708-2800.

Mobile Computer Lab

A mobile computer lab is in development and will soon visit your community! Complete with computers, printers and more, the lab is staffed with technicians to train you on basic computer and internet skills.

Housing Choice Voucher Program Hosts Leasing Fairs

HANO hosted leasing fairs to assist Section 8 voucher holders in finding new homes. Hundreds of landlords looking to lease apartments met with an estimated 200 families during each event. Since June, the HCV program has issued approximately 1,500 Section 8 vouchers to families that were already enrolled on the wait list.



Mobile Computer Lab Rendering

HANO IS LOOKING FOR LANDLORDS!

For information on how to become a landlord, contact HCVP Landlord Specialist Myrna Leufroy mleufroy@hano.org • (504) 655-9506 • 4100 Touro St. (Senate St. entrance) NOLA 70122



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