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HANO Provides College Exploration Experience for Youth during 2022 College Tour

New Orleans, LA (October 18, 2022) – This fall, The Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) continued its annual tradition of hosting young residents on a three-day college tour. The Agency selected 40 high school seniors and juniors currently living in public housing or participating in the Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) to tour 7 colleges located in Alabama and Georgia. From October 6th through 8th, young residents visited the University of Alabama, Miles College, Morehouse College, Spelman College, Clark Atlanta University, Tuskegee University, and Alabama State University. The HANO campus tours are spearheaded by HANO’s Client Services Coordinator, Eddie Scott. HANO partnered with College Campus Tours, LLC to provide young residents with an enriching college exploration experience. Transportation, food, and lodgings were provided by HANO throughout the three-day experience.

During the three-day tour, participants took walking tours throughout 7 campuses. Participants learned the histories of each school and explored the academic majors and extracurricular activities offered to them. Facility tours gave young participants the opportunity to explore libraries, resource centers, cafeterias, dorm rooms, and gyms. Q&A sessions allowed participants to ask in-depth questions about enrollment, scholarship opportunities, school history, and campus culture.

In addition to exploring campuses, participants also toured the cities visited. After visiting two colleges on day one, participants visited the Kelly Ingram Civil Rights Park in Birmingham, AL. After the campus tours concluded on day two, participants explored the City of Atlanta and visited the Martin Luther King Center on Nonviolence. Visits to the George W. Carver Museum and educator Booker T. Washington’s home followed campus tours on day three. Finally, a rousing football game featuring Alabama State University against Jackson State University concluded the three-day tour.

Ke'Ayra Smith, a high-school senior attending Warren Easton High School summed up her experience and remarked, “The campus tours opened my eyes to different career paths and different school choices. One of my choices now is Spelman College.” Jy'rii Thomas, a junior at

McDonough 35 High School, echoed a similar sentiment, stating, “The tours helped me in deciding the next step in my life. I will be applying to Tuskegee University’s nursing program.”

Since 2002, HANO has hosted more than 20 college tours for young residents living in HANO communities.

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