



## HUD AWARDS \$1,422,850 JOBS PLUS GRANT TO HANO FOR HARMONY OAKS

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded HANO a \$1,422,850 Jobs Plus grant to benefit the Harmony Oaks community, following a competitive national selection process with only 14 recipients. This grant enables HANO to implement localized job-driven strategies that enhance earnings and employment outcomes for public housing residents. As HANO's second Jobs Plus grant, it represents a significant opportunity to improve employment prospects and economic outcomes in Harmony Oaks. HANO Executive Director Evette Hester emphasized that the grant will make a substantial difference in the community by providing critical resources.

## HUD ACTING SECRETARY TOURS CITY SQUARE 162 APARTMENTS

HUD Acting Secretary Adrienne Todman recently visited City Square 162 Apartments in New Orleans. This development provides a mix of market-rate and assisted housing through various programs, including federal HOME funds and creative financing. During the tour, HANO Executive Director Evette Hester and property manager Shante' White showcased the property's features and answered questions. City Square 162 is part of a larger \$30.5 million Choice Neighborhood Initiative grant received in 2011, aimed at transforming the Iberville Tremé neighborhood with mixed-income and commercial developments. Secretary Todman praised the property's design, including its spacious closets, onsite parking, and community amenities, underscoring the importance of such projects for the community.



## HANO PARTNERS WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS FOR SUCCESSFUL BACK-TO-SCHOOL EVENTS

HANO's Resident Opportunities and Self-Sufficiency Program Team and Community Health Services Program team, in collaboration with Cox Communications, One Life One Future, LSU School of Dentistry Pediatrics, Thrive 9th Ward, and other community partners, recently launched back-to-school events in select HANO communities. The initiative kicked off last month at The Estates, where approximately 400 backpacks filled with supplies were distributed to young residents. The LSU School of Dentistry Pediatrics also provided on-site dental screenings. Upcoming supply giveaways are scheduled for the Guste, Fischer, New Florida, and Scattered Sites communities.

## HANO'S SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM WRAPS UP WITH GREAT SUCCESS

This past summer, HANO successfully hosted its annual Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP), offering high school and college-age residents the chance to intern with businesses and organizations that align with their career and educational aspirations. The 7-week program combined life-skills training with hands-on work experience, helping participants gain valuable insights and practical skills. The program concluded last month with great success, providing meaningful opportunities and growth for the young interns.



## CHOICE COOPER VISION PLANNING MEETING GATHERS COMMUNITY INSIGHTS FOR B.W. COOPER REVITALIZATION

Last month, the Choice Cooper Vision Planning meeting brought together residents to share their insights on transforming the historic B.W. Cooper neighborhood. Choice Cooper, initiated through the Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant awarded to HANO, aims to revamp the B.W. Cooper Community. The program unites former B.W. Cooper residents, current Marrero Commons residents, and the surrounding area with service organizations, businesses, and non-profits to enhance the neighborhood and improve residents' lives. Focused on housing, people, and neighborhood, the program addresses key areas such as education, public safety, health, and employment.

## HANO AND LSU AGRICULTURE CENTER HOST HEALTHY COOKING DEMO FOR LAFITTE SENIOR RESIDENTS

HANO's Community Health Program team recently partnered with the LSU Agriculture Center to offer a healthy cooking demonstration for residents at Lafitte Senior. This collaboration aimed to promote nutritious eating habits and provide practical cooking tips, enhancing the well-being of the senior residents. The event was well-received, empowering participants with new skills to prepare healthier meals. Demos will also be hosted at Fischer Senior Village, The Estates, and New Florida communities throughout September and October.



## HANO CELEBRATES RECENT FSS PROGRAM CLASS GRADUATION

In late June, HANO held a ceremony to honor the latest graduates of its Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program! HANO's Deputy Director of Operations, Falecia Stewart, presented certificates of completion to the proud graduates and offered words of encouragement and support as the graduates celebrated their accomplishments. Congratulations to all!

HANO's FSS Program is designed to support residents in achieving the following goals: find employment, increase income, complete education, improve financial management, and acquire assets such as a home, car, small business or savings account.

## HANO'S FSS PROGRAM HOSTS ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORKSHOP

In late June, HANO's Family Self-Sufficiency Program Team hosted an Entrepreneurship Workshop to equip residents with the tools needed to turn their business ideas into action. We extend our gratitude to our esteemed guest speakers, Ms. Cynthia Beaulieu, Director of the Southern University Small Business Development and Management Institute, and Mr. Elliot Pernell, a distinguished entrepreneur, educator, and business expert, for sharing their expertise with our residents.

