



HANO

HIGHLIGHTS

APRIL 2024

Members of HANO's ROSS Program Team and Human Resources Department gather for a photo during the bustling Job, Career, and Resource Fair

PATHWAYS TO PROSPERITY: DYNAMIC JOB AND RESOURCE FAIR GENERATES OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESIDENTS



HANO's Resident Opportunities and Self-Sufficiency Program recently hosted a Job, Career, and Resource Fair, extending a warm invitation to both residents and the general public. Featuring a diverse array of esteemed organizations and employers such as Sam's Club, Walmart, Sheraton Hotel, and Goodwill Industries, alongside educational institutions like Southern University of New Orleans, Delgado Community College, and Dillard University, the fair provided a vital platform for attendees to explore employment opportunities and access valuable resources. The event's success was undeniably bolstered by the generous participation of these entities, as well as the unwavering support from HANO's Human Resources Department, HANO Police Department, and the Family Self-Sufficiency and Homeownership Program Teams.



Reflecting on the fair's outcome, Jedidiah Jackson, HANO's Client Services Department Director, remarked, "The Job, Career, and Resource Fair highlighted our steadfast commitment to linking residents with essential resources. Witnessing residents and partners unite to explore opportunities and forge connections underscored the vital role of community support." Gratitude is extended to all who contributed to the event's success, including employers, organizations, educational institutions, and HANO departments. As the community continues to thrive, we eagerly anticipate the opportunity to host more events of this nature, further enriching the lives of residents and fostering growth within our community.



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A WORD FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear HANO Community,

I hope this letter finds you well. As we reflect on the events of the past month, I am pleased to share some highlights and updates from the Housing Authority of New Orleans.

April was indeed a busy month for us, filled with vibrant and engaging activities and significant transitions. We commenced the month with an invigorating Job Fair, designed to provide our residents with opportunities for

employment and advancement. Representatives from diverse industries converged to offer job placements, career guidance, and educational pathways, equipping our community members with valuable resources to enhance their professional journeys. We also hosted an Educational Resource Fair in our ongoing commitment to empowering our residents. This event served as a conduit for connecting residents with educational opportunities, furthering their academic pursuits and career aspirations.

Moreover, recently HANO hosted a Homebuyers Club Meeting for its Homeownership Program participants and graduates. During this gathering, participants were furnished with essential information on homeowners insurance and solar panel options, underscoring our dedication to supporting residents in their pursuit of homeownership and sustainable living practices.

To foster a sense of community spirit and engagement, Easter celebrations were organized across HANO communities. From delightful Easter egg hunts for the children to engaging basket decorating activities for our seniors, these festivities infused our neighborhoods with joy and camaraderie. Additionally, we organized an Arts and Crafts Workshop tailored for our senior residents, providing them with opportunities for creative expression and social connection.

Amidst the array of activities, we bid farewell to a cherished member of our HANO family, Iris Conerly, whose exemplary service spanned four decades. Iris leaves behind a legacy of dedication and commitment, and her contributions to our organization will be fondly remembered and celebrated. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Iris and wish her a fulfilling retirement.

On a positive note, I am thrilled to announce the appointment of Falecia Stewart as our new Deputy Director of Operations. With her extensive experience and expertise in housing and community development, Falecia is poised to make significant contributions to our organization. Her leadership will undoubtedly enrich our efforts as we strive to serve and uplift our community.

As we embark on this new chapter with renewed vigor and optimism, I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for HANO and our community. Together, we will continue to pursue excellence and endeavor to create a brighter future for all. Thank you for your unwavering support and collaboration.

Warm regards,

Evette Hester

Executive Director



EVETTE HESTER
Executive Director

JEDIDIAH JACKSON
Acting Director of Communications and
Intergovernmental Relations, Editor

ASHLEY FLEMING
Senior Communications Specialist
Designer, Photographer and Contributor

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UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, May 21, 2024 @ 4pm

MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

Hosted by HANO's ROSS Program Team

Lafitte Senior

Monday, May 6, 2024

5 PM to 7 PM

700 N. Galvez St.

New Florida/The Estates

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

5 PM to 7 PM

3250 Industry St.

Guste Highrise

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

1 PM to 3 PM

1301 Simon Bolivar Ave.

Fischer Senior

Thursday, May 9, 2024

1 PM to 3 PM

1400 Semmes St.

Marrero Commons

Friday, May 10, 2024

4 PM to 6 PM

1120 S. Broad St.

COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

Sponsored by HANO's Community
Health Services Program Team

Lafitte Senior

Monday, May 13, 2024

11 AM to 12:30 PM

700 N Galvez St.

Fischer Senior

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

1:30 PM to 2:30 PM

1400 Semmes St.

New Florida/The Estates

Thursday, May 16, 2024

11 AM to 12:30 PM

3250 Industry St.

CREDIT REPAIR WORKSHOP

Hosted by HANO's FSS Program Team

May 17, 2024 at 10AM

The Housing Authority of New Orleans
Building B., Helen Lang Boardroom
2051 Senate Street



HANO HIGHLIGHTS: APRIL 2024

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BRIDGING OPPORTUNITIES: HANO'S FSS PROGRAM HOSTS EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE FAIR

HANO's Family Self-Sufficiency Program team hosted an Education Resource Fair, uniting residents with educational avenues for personal and professional advancement. With participation from esteemed institutions like Total Community Action and Goodwill Technical College, attendees gained insights into diverse educational and training programs. Additionally, HANO's Client Services Department provided crucial information on scholarships and youth employment opportunities, exemplifying the agency's commitment to holistic community development.

This collaborative effort not only equipped residents with immediate resources but also laid a foundation for long-term empowerment. By fostering partnerships and investing in education, HANO is catalyzing a brighter future where every member of the community has the opportunity to thrive.

EASTER CELEBRATIONS BRING JOY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT TO HANO NEIGHBORHOODS

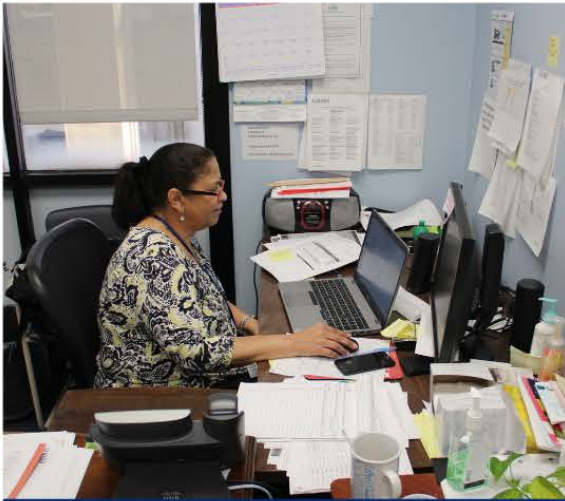


In the spirit of Easter, HANO's Client Services Programs orchestrated heartwarming events across HANO communities, spreading joy and support among residents. The Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) Program team organized delightful Easter Egg Hunts at Fischer and New Florida communities, partnering with DePaul Community Health Centers to make the festivities memorable. Children reveled in the excitement of hunting for Easter eggs filled with goodies, while door prizes added an extra element of surprise. Moreover, parents benefited from valuable health resources provided during the events, emphasizing HANO's dedication to the well-being of all its residents.



Additionally, the Community Health Services Program team collaborated with local partners to host a Seniors Easter Crafts Workshop at the Lafitte Senior Community. The event, organized in conjunction with High Voltage and other community organizations, offered seniors an opportunity to engage in crafting activities while receiving essential health and wellness checks. These events would not have been possible without the support of community partners, whose dedication and collaboration contributed to fostering a sense of belonging and happiness within the HANO neighborhoods.





Iris Conerly retires after 40 years of service at the Housing Authority of New Orleans

END OF AN ERA: HANO SAYS GOODBYE TO IRIS CONERLY, A PILLAR OF SERVICE FOR 43 YEARS

Born and raised in the vibrant heart of New Orleans, Iris Conerly began her journey with the Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) in 1976. Starting as a Typist Clerk at the Scattered Sites Central Office on Carondelet Street, she quickly found her footing in the world of public service.

After a brief stint in the trucking industry, Conerly returned to HANO in December 1980, eager to resume her role as a Typist Clerk, this time at St. Thomas. Over the years, she climbed the ladder, transitioning from Typist Clerk III to Clerk IV, navigating through different departments and responsibilities with resilience and determination.

In a stroke of serendipity, Jessie Smallwood's tenure as Executive Director ushered in a new chapter for Conerly. Recommended by her former supervisor, she stepped into the role of Executive Assistant, a position she held steadfastly through the changing tides of leadership and management. The turn of the millennium marked a pivotal moment as Conerly embraced a new challenge in Client Services, where she dedicated herself to empowering residents towards self-sufficiency. Through the highs and lows, from impromptu office weddings to collaborative ventures with resident leaders, she found fulfillment in the connections forged and lives touched.

As retirement beckons, Conerly looks forward to attending to neglected tasks at home, but her ties to the housing community remain strong. With a network of friends and a wealth of experiences, she envisions staying connected and continuing to lend a helping hand wherever needed.

Reflecting on her journey, Conerly shares the wisdom gleaned over the years with those embarking on similar paths: diligence, curiosity, and unwavering dedication are the keys to making a difference in this field. With one chapter closing and another waiting to be written, Conerly embraces the future with optimism and gratitude.

HANO'S NEW DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS: FALECIA STEWART BRINGS 25 YEARS OF HOUSING EXPERTISE TO THE TEAM



HANO Deputy Director of Operations, Falecia Stewart

HANO is thrilled to introduce our new Deputy Director of Operations, Falecia Stewart. She is a native of New Orleans and holds a Bachelor's in Business Administration from Georgia State University and a Master's in Business Administration from Strayer University. She began her non-profit career with Volunteers of America serving as the Housing Administrator overseeing the HUD 211 Elderly Housing Program.

In 1999, Falecia relocated to Atlanta, Georgia, where she shifted her focus to assisting low-income individuals and families through HUD-funded HCVP and Public Housing programs. She spent 15 years with the Housing Authority of Fulton County, serving as Executive Director during the final four years of her tenure. More recently, she held the position of Vice President of Housing at MUST Ministries. Since joining HANO, Falecia has remained dedicated to serving the citizens of New Orleans, bringing with her over 25 years of experience in non-profit and housing authority roles.

HANO'S HOMEOWNERSHIP PROGRAM TEAM HOSTS ANNUAL HOMEBUYER'S CLUB MEETING

HANO's Homeownership Program recently held its highly anticipated annual Homebuyer's Club meeting, a cornerstone event designed to provide comprehensive support to program participants and recent graduates embarking on their homeownership journey. The session was meticulously crafted to offer a wealth of invaluable information, covering everything from the intricacies of navigating homeowner's insurance to practical energy-saving tips, ensuring attendees left equipped with essential knowledge.

Jedidiah Jackson, Director of Client Services at HANO remarked, "Providing resources to Homeownership Program participants isn't just about achieving the dream of homeownership; it's about ensuring they have the tools and knowledge to sustain their homes for generations to come."

Experts from the Louisiana Department of Insurance and PosiGen Solar delivered insightful presentations and engaged directly with attendees. Sam's Club contributed by raffling off memberships, goodies, and gift cards, adding extra excitement to the event.

The collective effort of organizers, presenters, and sponsors made the meeting a success, showcasing the commitment of HANO's Homeownership Program in supporting program participants. To date, HANO has helped over 500 families become first-time homeowners through our Homeownership Program. To learn more about the program, visit hano.org/tenants/homeownership.



HANO'S COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM COLLABORATES WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO HOST ARTS AND CRAFTS WORKSHOP FOR SENIOR RESIDENTS

Last month, HANO's Community Health Services Program team brought joy and wellness to Lafitte Senior with an Arts and Crafts Workshop. Teaming up with High Voltage made the event possible, allowing senior residents to create beautiful New Orleans and Louisiana-themed collages.

Alongside the creative fun, DePaul Community Health Centers provided essential health screenings to keep everyone in top shape. Other invaluable partners included HANO's Resident Opportunities and Self-Sufficiency Program team, the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Foundation, UnitedHealthcare, and Humana.



HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM (HCVP) VIRTUAL MEETINGS FOR LANDLORDS AND TENANTS



SERIES 2024

Remote Meetings via Zoom Webinar

Please be on the lookout for Zoom link invitations and meeting agendas, which will be posted on www.hano.org and sent to you via email and text message in the upcoming months.

HCVP Tenants Calendar

- June 12, 2024
- September 11, 2024
- December 11, 2024

HCVP Landlords Calendar

- June 20, 2024
- September 19, 2024
- December 19, 2024

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Lafitte Senior	(504) 518-4799
Fischer	(504) 266-2503
Guste Homes	(504) 529-3392
Harmony Oaks	(504) 894-8828
Marrero Commons	(504) 524-9011
New Florida	(504) 558-4664
River Garden I	(504) 412-8216
River Garden II	(504) 371-5485
The Estates	(504) 940-3060
Scattered Sites	(504) 558-4664
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Public Housing Hotline	(504) 670-3446
HCVP Hotline	(504) 708-2800
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Maintenance - New Florida/Scattered Sites	(504) 915-6160