

Charleston Housing Highlights

July 2008

Public Housing FSS Graduate



Steven Skipwith, pictured above right, has been a resident of Charleston-Kanawha Housing since 2003. He moved in one of the first remodeled units at Orchard Manor. He signed his FSS contract on February, 2, 2006. The five year goals that he wished to accomplish were:

1. Complete the FSS program
2. Improve credit score
3. Save money for down payment on a house.
4. Heavy equipment training
5. Buy a car

Steven has accomplished many of his goals. He was promoted in his company and through this was able to establish an escrow account of over \$7,000.00. He also recently purchased a vehicle. In addition to the goals set through the program, Steven got married August 14, 2006 to his wife Connie Skipwith. He and his wife will be relocating due to a job transfer.

Charleston-Kanawha Housing congratulates Steven on these accomplishments and wishes him and his wife Connie the best of luck on their future endeavors.

Public Housing FSS Program

Public Housing Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) has several spots available for interested families. Charleston-Kanawha Housing's FSS Coordinator, Amy Lewis, can sign you up to participate in this program.

The objective of the FSS program is to help **MOTIVATED** families move toward self-sufficiency. The process involves a five year contract between the family and Charleston-Kanawha Housing in which the individual states their goals & activities for achieving self-sufficiency. Two goals must be met under the contract:

- The family must be free of any AFDC, TANF or other welfare assistance checks and SSI payments that are subject to income eligibility tests (excluding transitional food stamps and medical card and SSI payments to guardians of disabled children) for one full year prior to the expiration date of the contract; and
- The participating family member must seek and maintain suitable employment and be employed at the expiration date of the contract.

Any other goals of the family can be added to the contract, such as:

- Improve credit
- Obtain GED
- Obtain job training
- Obtain child care, etc.

The Religious Coalition for Community Renewal (RCCR) will provide homeowner-ship and credit counseling to interested participants.

Once a participant obtains employment, or better employment, and the rent increases, they may choose to create an escrow account from the difference in their rent payment. The increase amount would be put into a savings account that would be available to the participant upon successful completion of the program.

If you are interested in finding out more about the FSS Program, contact Amy Lewis at 348-6451 ext. 307 to schedule an appointment.

Resident Comment Line

We Want to Hear From You!



348-1096

All Calls are Welcome
& Remain Anonymous.

Plans for New Building Approved



The Charleston Urban Renewal Authority, CURA, approved plans from the Charleston-Kanawha Housing Authority, CKHA, for the renovation of buildings located on the 1500 block of West Washington Street. CURA will also donate more than \$200,000 to the cost of the project. Two of the existing buildings will be the future home of CKHA’s administrative and operations offices which will house approximately 42 staff.

CKHA’s plan to relocate staff into one centralized location is the result of the current locations being less accessible to our clients. Staff currently provide services in four separate locations. In addition to consolidating services, this new location will be convenient to the public, be located on the busline, and be fully handicap accessible.



The renovations will connect two currently vacant buildings creating a large waiting area in the center. Once completed, the renovated office buildings will be a significant investment in the West Side community. These buildings have been sitting vacant and deteriorating for a number of years. The renovations will give the main street a much needed face-lift and will contribute to a changing climate for residents and visitors of the West Side of Charleston.

“Not only are we going to be able to position Charleston-Kanawha Housing to be a more accessible and efficient operation with the merging of all administration functions, but we will also improve a part of the city that is in much need of improvement in a lot of areas. My hope is that other property owners in the area will see this as the first step in the rebuilding of that entire part of our community and will join us in continuing efforts of revitalization” Allan McVey, Vice-Chair, Charleston Kanawha Housing Authority Board of Commissioners.

We’re In The News!!



Carroll Terrace residents made the news in an article about their community garden that appeared in The Charleston Gazette on Saturday, July 12, 2008. Gardeners gave a tour of their plots and spoke about the benefit it has been to their diet and their pocket-book. Pictured above are several regular gardeners; from left: Nittaya Gallagher, Drema Dufault and Eleanor Derrick.

Computer Lab Open Hours

Mondays

- Littlepage 12:00 - 2:00
- Carroll Terrace 12:00-2:00
- Jarrett Terrace 2:30 - 4:30
- Lee Terrace 6:00 - 8:00
- Orchard Manor 5:00 - 7:00

Tuesdays

- Washington Manor 12:00 - 2 :00
- Lee Terrace 2:30 - 4:30
- Lippert Terrace 5:00 - 7:00

Wednesdays

- Littlepage 12:00 - 2:00
- Carroll Terrace 12:00-2:00
- Orchard Manor 2:30 - 4:30
- Jarrett Terrace 5:00 - 7:00
- Lee Terrace 7:00 - 9:00

Thursdays

- Washington Manor 12:00 - 2 :00
- Lee Terrace 2:30 - 4:30
- Jarrett Terrace 5:00 - 7:00

Fridays

- Lippert Terrace 12:00 - 2:00
- Carroll Terrace 5:00 - 7:00

Saturdays

- Lee Terrace 7:00 - 9:00

Sundays

- Lee Terrace 6:00 - 8:00