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FEB 22 2005
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DHA COMMUNITY REPORT

A Message From Ann Lott, President and CEO

Volume 3, Issue

February 14, 2005

Hearing Ends Landmark Housing Suit

The Housing Authority of the City of Dallas (DHA) is officially dismissed from the *Walker* desegregation lawsuit. A hearing held in December ended 20 years of litigation that helped change the face of the city of Dallas for thousands of low-income families who we serve.

The desegregation lawsuit was filed in 1985 on behalf of seven African American women who claimed that public housing conditions were separate and unequal. The plaintiffs' sued the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the city of Dallas and The Housing Authority of the City of Dallas (DHA) in federal court, and won.

Almost two decades and hundreds of millions of dollars later, once blighted neighborhoods have been revitalized with new apartments, townhouses and single-family homes, giving low-income clients a wide choice of housing options.

Getting to this point is a tremendous milestone for DHA and the families we serve. We are proud of the positive changes the agency has been able to make in the community.

We have truly changed the face of public housing as well as changed the quality of life for a multitude of clients—providing thousands of housing opportunities since the beginning of the lawsuit.

Ending the litigation allows DHA to focus its resources and time on continuing to make improvements in housing opportunities throughout the city.

Today, the agency that was once accused of fostering segregation of poor and minorities, is now a leader in providing opportunities for low-income individuals to find jobs, attend schools of higher education and work toward owning their own homes. Last year, almost 40 of our families realized their dream of homeownership. The best is yet to come.

Applications office closes to streamline operations

Beginning Monday, February 14 through Friday, March 25, DHA will close its Applications & Assignments division for administrative purposes.

Applications will not be taken during this time for any DHA housing programs specifically:

- Low Rent Public Housing
- Cedar Glen Apartments
- Estelle Village Apartments
- Wales SRO
- Hillcrest SRO
- Project Based Section 8
- Elderly/Disabled Housing
- Frankford Townhomes
- Hidden Ridge Apartments
- Roseland Gardens
- Family Reunification

Applications will be accepted beginning Monday, March 28,

DEFENDANT'S EXHIBIT 120

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at 3131 Fish Trap Road in West Dallas. Individuals who are 62 years of age and older, disabled or handicapped may apply on Fridays at the same location from 8:00 a.m. to noon.

As you may know, the applications intake process for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program closed in June 2004 and will remain closed until further notice.

Agency seeks funds to revitalize Turner Courts

DHA has submitted a HOPE VI grant application to HUD for the Turner Courts development, part of the "Golden Triangle" renovation for South Dallas.

The "Golden Triangle" transformation, involves demolishing and rebuilding three of DHA's largest and most troubled public housing developments. The work has already begun on the Frazier Courts development, which represents a $60 million commitment to the economy and well-being of an aging area.

Inasmuch, we are collaborating with DHA clients, community and business leaders, in an effort to transform these areas into thriving communities that enhance the quality of life for our families.

DHA enters public/private partnership with city, others

DHA is working with the city of Dallas, Southwest Housing, the Dallas Urban League and Bright III, in a unique partnership that provides 500 units of affordable housing and social services in areas of southern Dallas.

The developments are a $50 million commitment to long-neglected areas in desperate need of new affordable housing. Both developments have 250 modern townhouse-style units. Southwest Housing, the developer, will build Rosemont at Laureland at I-20 and Camp Wisdom Road in Oak Cliff and Rosemont at Scyene near Masters in Pleasant Grove.

While working with Dallas City Councilman Don Hill, it is understood that DHA's involvement will assist in providing a greater level of social services, mentorship to community development organizations and much-desired townhouse-style units readily-available in other areas of the city.

The city of Dallas' planning and zoning citizen representative, D'Angelo Lee, has also worked with DHA in this process. Additionally, The Dallas Urban League and Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church-Bright III programs will provide social service resources to the areas.

Homeownership Program has two closings

DHA's Section 8 homeownership officer assisted two families in closing on their own homes. To find out about this program, visit our website or e-mail ehead@dhadal.com.

DHA Community Report is published by the Housing Authority of the City of Dallas (DHA), 3939 N. Hampton Road, Dallas , Texas 75212. If you have questions or comments, call
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