



Community Connection Newsletter

Volume I, Issue 5

MAY 2015

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Attendance will count as community hours

JUNE ACTIVITIES

Pre-REAC Inspections

Continue to Wednesday, July 15

Brevard Health Alliance Mobile Unit

Every Monday in June at the corner of Fiske & Barbara Jenkins

Cooking Class

“Summer Salads”

MUST PRE-REGISTER

Tuesday, June 9 10:30-12PM

Crime Watch Meeting

Barlow Homes

Thursday, June 18 6—7PM

Juneteenth Celebration

Saturday, June 20 12-7PM

Basic Interview Skills

Presented by Goodwill Industries
Tuesday, June 23 10—11:30AM

Hurricane Preparedness

Brevard County ER Management
Thursday, June 25 10 - 11:00AM

JULY ACTIVITIES

Pre-REAC Inspections

Continue to Wednesday, July 15

Goodwill JOB CLUB

July 14, 15, 16

HUD Inspections

July 16 - 23, 2015

...from the Desk of the Executive Director

On May 4, 2015, the Cocoa Housing Authority held its annual Public Meeting to review the 2015 Annual Plan. There were several community partners in attendance who were interested in the way we do business. Previously, we have met with the Resident Advisory Board to discuss our plans and goals. One of our primary goals is to improve the safety and security of our residents. On that note we have some outstanding news.

Our application for the HUD Safety and Security Grant was selected for funding in the amount of \$250,000! This award is part of the \$6 Million dollars of funding awarded to 29 public housing agencies nationwide - the Housing Authority of the City of Cocoa (HACC) received the only award in Florida.

This will mean that we can expand our plans for security cameras and lighting and also improve some of our entry doors. The cameras will have the ability to record video and will be instrumental in identifying and stopping criminal activity on our properties.

I encourage you to call me with your ideas on how to make our homes safe and secure. I am interested in your ideas and your concerns.

“Complete Streets Projects”

Peachtree Street Project - FDOT Project: The City of Cocoa will be making improvements along Peachtree Street from Pineda Street to Blake Avenue. Construction in this area is scheduled to begin in **June 2015** and be completed by **January 2016**. The construction project includes:

- ◆ Reconstructing the roadway
- ◆ Continuous sidewalks
- ◆ New crosswalks
- ◆ Drainage improvements
- ◆ Pedestrian scaled lighting
- ◆ Landscaping and street furniture



The project is funded by the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization as a **Complete Streets projects**. For more information please contact Charlene Neuterman, City of Cocoa Project Manager, at 321-433-8773 or via e-mail:

cneuterman@cocoafl.org .



Brevard Health Alliance (BHA) Mobile Unit - is onsite on Mondays from 8 - 12Noon. Starting Monday, **June 8th** until the start of the school year, they will be available from 8 AM - 4PM. BHA provides professional medical care to Brevard’s residents. Insurance or “not”, fees will be determined on a sliding scale based on your income. No appointment necessary - first come first served basis.

Herb Hernandez	Executive Director	Ext. 103
Lynda Elmore	Dir. of Housing Operations	Ext. 114
Shauna Ginn	Director of Development	Ext. 115
Cynthia Ezzell	Receptionist	Ext. 100
Christina Falero	Program Technician	Ext. 101
Lisa Bundy	Program Technician	Ext. 102
Sheena Heitzman	Community Relations	Ext. 109
Mike Butler	Investigator	Ext. 108



Maintenance repairs: In the event you need to request maintenance services, please call the work order number at, 806-3971.



Put your best foot forward by attending the Job Club at Goodwill. If you are interested in attending the Job Club you will need to register, by calling Sheena Heitzman at, 321-636-8535. The sessions will be held from July 14 – 16, 2015, from 10AM – 4PM, at Goodwill Industries in Rockledge. **Transportation will be provided** and must attend all three days; **lunch is not**

provided - please pack a lunch. Topics will include: Creating a resume that makes you stand out, complete Master Application, learn and practice interview skills (Dos and Don'ts), dress for success, Develop marketing tools to highlight your strengths, skills, and accomplishments, tips for surviving while on the job.

At program completion, participants are eligible for a **\$20 Goodwill Voucher** to be used to purchase interview clothing. Attendance at this class will count as community service hours for those residents required to complete eight (8) hours of service each month.

IMPORTANT — PLEASE READ

Pre-REAC Inspection: Beginning **Thursday, May 14 - Wednesday, July 15, 2015**, we will be preparing for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) inspections. **These will take place from July 16 - 23, 2015.**

Our Maintenance Staff will visit your home to conduct a Pre-REAC Inspection check. Items that will be inspected are: stoves, refrigerators, smoke alarms, electrical outlets, etc.

Residents will need to have their homes and yards cleaned. For safety reasons please make sure that at least ONE window in each room is “unblocked” free of any obstacles. Charcoal grills will need to be on the back porch. Gas grills and any flammable liquids are prohibited in the inside and outside of your homes. Interior furniture is not permissible on your porch. If you have any questions contact the Maintenance Department at, 321-806-3970.

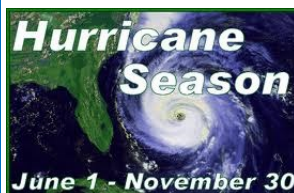
Thank you...

To all who participated in the First Time Home Buyer & Credit Management and Repair session with Nicole Tenpenny, Community Housing Initiative. As well, to all those who participated in the Habitat for Humanity session. Both of these presentations go hand-in-hand and they help inform the audience about income criteria, credit score and how to clean up/repair their credit. The dream of owning your own home is not impossible to achieve. Follow the steps discussed in both sessions. Home ownership can be a reality, all you need to do is follow through one step at a time!



REPORT: It gives us great satisfaction to report that CHA has held three successful Crime Watch meetings. Thank you to the Cocoa Police Mobile Unit for

their commitment to make our community a safer and secure neighborhood. Our next meeting will take place on **Thursday, June 18**, from 6 - 7PM, at the Barlow Home area. Please plan to attend - we are counting on you!



Hurricane season is upon us June 1 through November 30

..always have a Kit; make a plan, and stay informed. Are you prepared for hurricane season? Brevard County Emergency Management will be presenting “Myths and Misconceptions” about Hurricanes.

This information session will take place on **Thursday, June 25, 10 – 11AM**, at the Pineda Senior Center (1053 Fern Ave.) To help you get prepared, copies of the Official Hurricane Survival Guide will be issued. The guide provides everything you need to know about: getting ready and staying safe, putting together a “survival” kit, creating your own personal disaster plan, and much more. Don't wait until an emergency occurs – *prepare today!*

Happening in Brevard

6th Annual Cocoa Village BBQ & Blues - June 5 & 6, at Riverfront Park. This event showcases two days of world class blues music and the best BBQ-ers in the southeast competing for over \$10,000 in cash prizes. Come join us!

Juneteenth celebration scheduled for Sat, **JUN 20, 12—7:00 PM**, at the 900 Block of Stone & Barbara Jenkins in Cocoa. Presenting **Cece Teneal** Jazz & Blues performance. ALL are welcome!



HOT OF THE PRESS

An excellent opportunity has been offered to benefit the CHA's Residents. The United Way will facilitate three sessions: Motivation; Financial Education; and Budgeting. Sessions will take place on **Wednesdays, July 22 & 29**, and **August 5**, at the Pineda Senior Center (1053 Fern Ave) from 10 - 12 Noon. This is a great opportunity - *don't miss out!*