

News and information for members and friends of the
Tennessee Association of Housing and Redevelopment Authorities

Informing TAHRA members and friends since 1984

~TALES OF TAHRA~

Greetings TAHRA members!

We are already past the halfway mark of the year. I want to pause and say a simple, heartfelt thank you. Every single day, you change lives across Tennessee. You fix a leaky pipe for a worried family, guide someone through a voucher program, or build a new path toward workforce housing. Together, your work touches more than 100,000 of our neighbors. That is not just a statistic. That is real comfort, safety, and dignity.

We want to see the faces behind these moments. Please send us your favorite photos from your properties and daily work. We want to share your real stories with the rest of the TAHRA family.

Our strength comes from each other. Here is what is happening right now and how you can dive in:

- **TAHRA/KHA Joint Conference:** Join us September 13–16 at the Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport & Expo Center in Louisville, Kentucky. Come ready to learn, share ideas across state lines, and recharge. We are offering deep-dive certifications in 'Managing Maintenance' and 'Rent Calculations/HOTMA'. Catch brand-new sessions like "The Housing Authority of Tomorrow" to learn how we can build self-sustaining agencies. There is something valuable here for everyone, from commissioners and accountants to frontline maintenance staff.
- **Advocacy:** Our legislative committee is fighting hard alongside NAHRO and PHADA to protect our funding and resources. Thank you for speaking up and meeting with your local lawmakers. If you joined the August advocacy push with NAHRO, thank you for making our collective voice heard.
- **Professional development:** Our sub-committees keep building sharp, practical training programs. We want to help you stay ahead of complex rules so your agency runs smoothly and innovatively.
- **Get involved:** Do you want to help shape the future of TAHRA. Join us for our committee strategic planning session on Oct. 26–27 in Chattanooga. If you're intersted, please contact TAHRA Board Senior Vice President Julie Sharpe at jsharpe@mhatn.com.

Thank you again for pouring your hearts into affordable housing and self-sufficiency across Tennessee. You do hard, amazing work, and I am proud to stand beside you. I always look forward to hearing from you.

HERE to serve!



Save the Date!

2026

TAHRA

STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING

Board & Committee Leadership



WANT TO GET MORE INVOLVED WITH TAHRA?
Consider serving on a committee!



Join your peers for strategic planning,
collaboration, and leadership as we
shape the future of TAHRA.

OCTOBER
26 - 27
2026



TAHRA
Tennessee Association of
Housing & Redevelopment
Authorities

~TALES OF SUMMER~

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TAHRA/KHA
2026 CONFERENCE

FAST TRACK TO HOUSING SUCCESS:
Taking the Lead

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY SEPTEMBER 13-16, 2026

CONFERENCE
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2025-2027 TAHRA board members



PRESIDENT | Mark C. Reid

Mark has 34 years of experience with Jackson Housing Authority, where he served as the director of asset management and deputy director prior to becoming the executive director. Mark received his BBA degree from the University of Tennessee and was a member of Alpha Kappa Psi. He has served on numerous SERC-NAHRO committees, including asset management, the rental assistance and resolutions. He currently serves on the board of directors for CASA in Jackson as an advisor to the Housing Commission of Jackson on the advisory board for Cadence Bank, and as secretary/treasurer for both the TN Housing Development Corporation and Genesis CDC. Mark is married to Karen P. Reid.

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT | Julie Sharpe

Julie has been working in public housing since 2004, and currently serves as executive director of the Maryville Housing Authority. Prior to her career in housing, Julie worked in the legal and human resources offices for the corporate office of Ruby Tuesday. Julie holds degrees in business administration and management. She and her husband Scotty have two children and four grandchildren.



VP PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT | Crystal Carver

Crystal is the deputy director at the Lafayette Housing Authority, and has 15 years of experience in the housing industry. She has served on TAHRA's housing committee and is a graduate of PHADA and Rutgers University EDEP. Crystal's many hats include being a Nelrod public housing manager, a Microsoft-certified application specialist, a certified property manager, and a notary for the state of Tennessee. She serves as a member of the ADA compliance board for the city of Lafayette. Crystal is a communications, media and marketing major.



VP COMMISSIONERS | Eva Reynolds

Eva serves as the chairperson of the Bolivar Housing Authority's board of commissioners. She is a retired church secretary and serves on the Advisory Board AAAD of Southwest Tennessee and on the area agency on aging and disability. Eva has been married to Ricky for 62 years, and they have two sons, Harold and Joe.



VP HOUSING | Pam Bratcher

Pam has worked in the housing industry since 1993 and is executive director of the Martin Housing Authority, where she previously served as deputy director. Prior to her housing career, Pam worked in accounting and as a program director for a mental health organization. Pam holds a bachelor's degree in business administration.



FIRST PAST PRESIDENT | Maria Catron

Maria is the executive director of the Oak Ridge HA and has 20 years of experience in public housing. Maria is experienced with community supportive services, Choice Neighborhoods, FSS and homeownership programs. She was involved with redevelopment with Hope VI & RAD/LIHTC. Maria has several on local, regional, and state boards focused on affordable housing. Maria and her husband Darryl have five sons & one daughter.

VP MEMBER SERVICES | Jamie Berry

Jamie is chief of staff for the Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency (MDHA) in Nashville, where she has served since 2014, first as director of communications. Before beginning her career in housing, Jamie spent 14 years in television news and later worked in public relations and communications at Goodwill. Jamie serves on NAHRO's member services committee and the Habitat for Humanity of Tennessee Board. She holds a master of arts in conflict management and a bachelor of science in mass communication.



MEMBER AT LARGE | Jeboria Scott

Jeboria has more than 20 years of experience leading public and nonprofit housing programs with a focus on community impact. In her role as director of rental assistance at the Tennessee Housing and Development Agency, Jeboria leads statewide initiatives such as Project-Based Voucher, FSS/ homeownership, Housing Choice Vouchers and special housing programs. She has successfully driven cross-functional initiatives that have expanded access to housing and strengthened community partnerships. She is a graduate of the NCSHA Executive Institute, the Tennessee Government Executive Institute and the Coach U, Inc. professional coaching program.



Recent hires and promotions

KCDC promotes Randall Brown to CFO

Knoxville's Community Development Corporation (KCDC) has promoted Randall Brown to the position of chief financial officer to oversee the financial operations for the agency.

Brown has more than 20-years of experience in real estate finance and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) accounting and has developed extensive expertise in financial reporting, regulatory compliance, budgeting, audits and the financial management of affordable housing and HUD-funded programs.

"Randall fully understands the complexities of securing financing for a multitude of development initiatives, including affordable housing, that require public and private partnerships," said Ben Bentley, executive director and CEO of KCDC. "He has been at KCDC for more than 10-years and has a full grasp on our internal and external processes. I congratulate him for a well-earned promotion."

Brown joined KCDC in 2015 as a senior accountant and was named financial director in 2022.

"I believe in and understand the mission of KCDC and am grateful to have been a part of our efforts to create affordable housing opportunities and other initiatives that benefit Knoxville and Knox County as a whole," Brown said.



Wanda Allen named executive director of Clarksville Housing Authority

Wanda A. Allen is the new executive director of the Clarksville Housing Authority, where she is committed to expanding opportunity, strengthening communities, and ensuring families have access to safe, affordable housing. Her passion for housing and community development is rooted in the belief that stable housing can change lives.

Before joining the housing authority, Allen served in leadership roles with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, local government, and nonprofit organizations. She also proudly served nine years in the U.S. Army, where her commitment to service and leadership first took shape.

As a longtime Clarksville leader and former city council member, Allen has remained deeply connected to the community she now serves. She believes the housing authority can be more than a housing provider; it can be a catalyst for opportunity, neighborhood revitalization, and lasting change.

"Serving this community has been a lifelong commitment of mine, and stepping into this role is both professionally meaningful and personally significant," Allen said. "Housing is foundational to stability, opportunity, and community strength, and I take the responsibility of this role very seriously." Allen holds master's degrees in social work, business administration and political science/government. She brings both heart and vision to her leadership of Clarksville Housing Authority.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

America's affordable housing crisis continues to deepen, and communities nationwide are searching for achievable solutions. That's where NAHRO comes in! Housing and community development professionals from across the country will gather at the NAHRO National Conference & Exhibition in downtown Denver for three days of practical tools and detailed policy knowledge. Alongside sessions, a bustling exhibit hall brings together trusted vendors who serve the housing industry every day. From opening plenary to closing session, this is where the field gathers to compare notes on what's working and build the coalitions to tackle what isn't.

Join us!

NAHRO NAT CON 26

October 15-17, 2026

Colorado Convention Center Denver, CO

HOTMA on-demand training

Get ready for full HOTMA implementation with NAHRO's newest on-demand training, HOTMA 2027: A Practical Guide to the New Requirements!

This self-paced course explores changes in income and asset calculation requirements, such as inflationary adjustments, deduction thresholds, and imputed asset income rules; identifies when interim reexaminations, non-interim revisions, and hardship provisions apply; centralizes helpful resources and interactive calculators; and provides much more information for participants. Preview the course online at <https://www.nahro.org> today.

Additional training opportunities

Need other trainings? NAHRO has launched multiple new trainings to meet the changing needs of housing agencies. Visit NAHRO's new Featured Trainings page (and check back often) for more information on trainings like Planning for Financial Shortfall, LIHTC Essentials, Inspections for Voucher Operations (NSPIRE-V) and more!

Two upcoming workshops

Join other housing professionals from across the nation this December in Las Vegas for the Housing Mastery Conference!

On Dec. 9, supervisors & leaders will focus on managing teams, resolving conflict, setting priorities and helping employees succeed. Then, Dec. 10-11, commissioners & executive directors will explore governance, financial oversight, compliance, board leadership and more.

Attend one workshop or stay for both and leave with practical tools and strategies you can put to work right away.

Register at brcollins.com or call if you have any questions, 318-709-0024.



The B.R. Collins Training Group presents

THE HOUSING MASTERY CONFERENCE

TRAINING THAT'S FUN!

TWO EVENTS - ONE VEGAS WEEK

December 9-11, 2026 • The Westin Las Vegas Hotel & Spa
Dec 9 & 10: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM • Dec 11: 8:30 AM - 12:00 noon

EVENT ONE • DEC 9 ONE-DAY WORKSHOP	EVENT TWO • DEC 10-11 TWO-DAY TRAINING
\$525	\$895
Supervisors & Leaders Workshop For PH & HCV supervisors & team leaders	Commissioners & Executive Directors For commissioners, EDs & agency leaders
✓ Lead people, not just programs ✓ Manage personalities & resolve conflict ✓ Prevent burnout & lift performance ✓ Set goals, prioritize & stay organized	✓ Governance & board leadership ✓ Financial oversight & fiduciary duty ✓ Budget strategy & compliance planning ✓ Capital fund & asset management
★ CERTIFICATION INCLUDED	★ INCLUDES OPENING RECEPTION

EARLY BIRD **ATTEND BOTH EVENTS** **\$1,195** After Sept 15: \$1,495 No refunds after Nov 9

REGISTER TODAY AT **BRCOLLINS.COM**

The Westin Las Vegas Hotel & Spa • 160 E. Flamingo Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89169
(Hotel booking link sent after registration is completed.)



SCAN TO REGISTER

NEXT ISSUE!

~TALES OF FALL~



TAHRA/KHA 2026 CONFERENCE

*FAST TRACK TO HOUSING SUCCESS:
Taking the Lead*

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY  SEPTEMBER 13-16, 2026

Featuring: Tracks • Exhibitors • Golf
Photos and more Photos!

THDA awards grant to help build Redbud Village

The Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) recently awarded Highlands Residential Services (HRS) \$600,000. The award is funded through the Tennessee Housing Trust Fund (THTF) and will support the construction of Redbud Village which will provide permanent housing for people experiencing homelessness.

"THDA is proud to support Highlands Residential in this endeavor that will help to address the continued need for affordable housing for those who are experiencing homelessness," said THDA Executive Director Ralph Perrey. "The work that HRS is doing for the community of Cookeville is an important step towards creating a better, more affordable future for Tennesseans."

Redbud Village will be a 20-unit development, consisting of 10 one-bedroom and 10 two-bedroom units. Each unit is designed with handicap accessibility in mind, with 25% of the units being designated as handicapped. The development will provide residents with an opportunity to build their lives up through a variety of essential services thanks to HRS's partnership with many community agencies in the local Cookeville area. HRS will provide a property manager with knowledge of the community to provide referrals as needed.

"Redbud Village is an important part of our ongoing efforts to bring affordable housing to Cookeville and the surrounding area. With the help of THDA and the city of Cookeville, we will be able to assist 20 families struggling with homelessness," said HRS Executive Director Chris Cassetty.

THDA awards THTF grants to non-profit partners for projects that develop or preserve rental housing for low and very low-income households, the elderly and individuals with special needs. Funding for THTF grants is generated from revenue earned through THDA's Great Choice mortgage program.



Memphis~

Memphis Housing Authority brings mobile grocery service to residents

As you walk through the aisles at the grocery store, you may wonder which options provide the most nutritious and budget-friendly choice: fresh or canned foods? While fresh produce often takes the spotlight, canned foods can offer valuable nutrients and help you save money on your grocery bill. Make more informed decisions about your purchases with these pros and cons.

FRESH FOODS

Pros: Fresh fruits and vegetables often contain the highest levels of vitamins and minerals, providing the greatest nutritional benefits. Similarly, fresh meat from the butcher offers more nutritional value than processed meats.

Cons: Fresh produce and meat have a shorter shelf life and can spoil quickly, leading to wasted money and food. Another thing to consider is seasonal availability may make certain items more expensive.

CANNED FOODS

Pros: Canned fruits and vegetables are preserved at their peak ripeness, allowing them to retain a significant portion of their nutritional value. They also offer a longer shelf life, which makes them a convenient and budget-friendly option for stocking your pantry. Plus, they are available year-round in many grocery, convenience and corner stores!

Cons: Some canned foods may contain added salt or sugar, so check the labels and choose options with reduced sodium or sugar content. Depending on the product, simply rinsing the foods before use can reduce the amount of salt or sugar you consume in your final meal.

CLPHA: PROMOTING HEALTHIER FOOD OPTIONS

The Council of Large Public Housing Authorities (CLPHA) supports public housing residents in Memphis and Shelby County. Memphis Housing Authority has partnered with The Works' mobile grocery service, which directly delivers fresh produce and other healthy food options to our housing communities. Residents can purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at discounted rates, encouraging more nutritious eating habits. As a bonus, some government food assistance programs multiply your available funds if you use your balance to purchase produce at the mobile grocery store.

In collaboration with Metropolitan Inter-faith Association, we offer cooking classes and demonstrations that empower our residents to cook nutritious meals for themselves and their families. These classes teach essential skills like portion control, using measuring tools and preparing healthy dishes. By actively integrating accessible and affordable ingredients – like canned vegetables, beans and whole grains – into delicious and easy-to-cook recipes, class attendees feel empowered to recreate these meals in their kitchens. Remember, making healthy choices doesn't have to be complicated. It's all about understanding your options and finding what works best for you and your family. Learn more about the CLPHA program by contacting rlomax@memphisha.org.



KCDC and KABOOM! partner with community to unveil new playground in Montgomery Village

Knoxville's Community Development Corporation (KCDC), the city of Knoxville, Knox County and play space nonprofit KABOOM! gathered with partners and volunteers July 29, to unveil a children-designed, community-built playground in Montgomery Village.

Approximately 150 volunteers joined forces to build the playground in roughly six hours at Community Unity Park in South Knoxville. "This play space is a great addition for Montgomery Village and offers the opportunity for children and families to enjoy physical activity and outdoor play together in their own neighborhood," KCDC Executive Director and CEO Ben Bentley said. "The community effort is a great example of what we can achieve when we come together with a shared goal."

The playground is designed for children ages 5-12 and features two slides, two group swings, ladders and monkey bars, an adaptive merry-go-round and a Cozy Cocoon chair that offers sensory escape. Volunteers also installed an adjacent fitness area for adults with chin-up bars, parallel bars and a balance beam. An ADA-accessible path provides enhanced access. Volunteers also constructed benches and a shade structure to allow supervising adults to relax out of the sun.

The new play space is part of a nationwide effort led by KABOOM! to end play space inequity and ensure all children, regardless of their circumstances, can experience the numerous physical, social and mental health benefits of play. "Playgrounds are an iconic part of childhood, where kids build confidence, connection, and memories that last a lifetime," said Lysa Ratliff, CEO of KABOOM!. "As KABOOM! celebrates 30 years of protecting childhood through play, we're proud to partner with KCDC, the city of Knoxville, Knox County and the community to bring this new play space to life. This project reflects the power of communities and partners working together to create joyful, welcoming spaces where kids feel valued and belong. Especially in today's challenging environment for children, it's more important than ever that we come together to ensure every kid has access to safe, inspiring places to play and grow."

Neighborhood children and adults helped conceive the play space, sharing drawings and desires in community design sessions. Those ideas were integrated into designs for the play space, fitness area and side projects. "This new playground shows the power of partnerships in strengthening community trust," Knoxville Mayor Indya Kincannon said. "As part of the city's Project TLC, we listened to Montgomery Village families and heard they wanted safer spaces to gather and play. I'm grateful for KCDC and KABOOM! and everyone who volunteered to make this new playground possible."

KABOOM! supported the playground through its initiative to expand access to safe play spaces where children live and learn. Additional funding comes from the city of Knoxville and Knox County, each of which contributed \$100,000. "We know children need exercise and dynamic play to thrive," Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs said. "This new playground is a great way to encourage children to get off screens and get outside together."

Additional support was provided by Chick-Fil-A, Five Star, Food City, Git-R-Gone, Ingles, Real Good Kitchen and Salsarita's. KCDC coordinated community support and contributions to make the playground build a reality. The new playground is adjacent to Community Unity Greenway located at 4530 Joe Lewis Road.



Participants in the ribbon-cutting ceremony are, from left, Ben Bentley, KCDC executive director and CEO; Star Starks, City of Knoxville; Bicki Rudd, KABOOM!; Myrion Huley; Khamari Long, Deon Starks, Davaya Barefield, Xavier Hunt and Kevin Ransom of Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley; Knoxville Mayor Indya Kincannon; Knoxville City Councilmember Karyn Adams; and Knoxville Police Chief Paul Noel.



Located in South Knoxville, Montgomery Village is a 380-unit community surrounded by wooded areas that provide a country-like setting.

TAHRA/KHA

2026 CONFERENCE

FAST TRACK TO HOUSING SUCCESS:
Taking the Lead

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY SEPTEMBER 13-16, 2026



OFF TO THE RACES

CHOOSE YOUR TRACK



SUNDAY

INTO THE
STARTING GATE

- 8:30 am: Golf Tournament
- 1 pm: Registration & Exhibitor Set-up
- 4 pm: Opening Ceremonies



MONDAY

THEY'RE OFF!

- 8 am: Continental Breakfast w/Exhibitor
- 8:30 am: 28 Breakout Sessions
- 12 pm: Lunch Plenary
- 5:30 pm: Exhibitor Reception
- Women of KHA/TAHRA Derby Hat Event



TUESDAY

DOWN THE
BACKSTRETCH

- 8 am: Continental Breakfast w/Exhibitor
- 8:30 am: 28 Breakout Sessions
- 12 pm: Scholarship Luncheon
- 6 pm: Live Auction
- Derby Hat Contest



WEDNESDAY

CROSSING THE
FINISH LINE

- Closing Plenary
- Grand Prizes



HCV & PH RENT CALCULATION CERTIFICATION (2-DAY)

Build the knowledge and skills to accurately calculate income, rent, and subsidy in the HCV and Public Housing programs.

This two-day program covers income verification, assets, deductions, allowances, rent determination, and subsidy calculation best practices.



MANAGING MAINTENANCE CERTIFICATION (2-DAY)

Build the knowledge and skills to lead effective maintenance operations and drive exceptional performance in your agency.

This two-day program covers maintenance best practices, asset management, financial stewardship, and more.



HCV TRACK



PUBLIC HOUSING TRACK



COMMISSIONERS TRACK



FINANCE TRACK



GENERAL TRACK

TOGETHER, WE BUILD BETTER COMMUNITIES.

Sponsors ~



Gallagher

Insurance | Risk Management | Consulting



Exhibitors ~



Seth's Lighting & Accessories, Inc.



Emerging leaders— Investing in tomorrow



EMERGING LEADERS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Tennessee Association of Housing and Development Authorities (TAHA) is investing in tomorrow by introducing the Emerging Leaders Collaborative Network. Strong organizations don't happen by accident; they are built by investing in people.

Across Tennessee, housing authorities are experiencing increasing retirements, leadership transitions, and new challenges that require innovative thinking and adaptable leaders. Recognizing this need, TAHA is proud to introduce the Emerging Leaders Collaborative Network, a statewide leadership initiative designed to develop, connect, and inspire the next generation of housing professionals.

The Emerging Leaders Collaborative Network is more than a leadership program. It is an investment in the future of our agencies and the communities we serve.

Participants will have opportunities to build meaningful relationships with peers from housing authorities across Tennessee while strengthening essential leadership skills such as communication, strategic thinking, project management, and problem-solving.

Through monthly virtual learning sessions, interactive workshops, statewide networking, and hands-on leadership activities, emerging professionals will gain practical knowledge they can immediately apply within their organizations.

As participants learn from one another, they will discover innovative approaches, share best practices, and return to their agencies with fresh ideas that improve operations and strengthen organizational culture.

For housing authorities, the benefits extend far beyond professional development. Investing in emerging leaders helps build a stronger leadership pipeline, supports succession planning, expands organizational capacity, and demonstrates

a commitment to excellence and employee growth. Because the program is offered at no cost in a flexible hybrid format, agencies can develop future leaders without significant financial or operational impact.

TAHA encourages executive directors to identify one or two rising professionals who demonstrate initiative, a passion for serving others, and leadership potential. By investing in these individuals today, we strengthen not only our own agencies but also the future of affordable housing throughout Tennessee.

Together, we can cultivate a statewide network of confident, collaborative leaders who are prepared to meet tomorrow's challenges with innovation, integrity, and purpose. The future of housing leadership begins today and it begins with investing in people.

For more information on how to get involved, please contact Committee Leader Jeboria Scott at jscott@thda.org

TAHA EMERGING LEADERS COMMITTEE

Committee leader

Jeboria Scott, THDA director of rental assistance

Chair

Kristy Robinson, Martin Housing Authority CEO

Secretary

Hillary Craig, THDA project-based voucher manager

Members

Kimbery Rogers, Ripley Housing Authority COO

Jason Pickard, Martin Housing Authority director of facilities and asset management

Save the Date!

2026

TAHRA

STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING

Board & Committee Leadership

WANT TO GET MORE INVOLVED WITH TAHRA?
Consider serving on a committee!

Join your peers for strategic planning, collaboration, and leadership as we *shape the future* of TAHRA.

**OCTOBER
26 – 27
2026**

**THE WESTIN
CHATTANOOGA**

TAHRA
Tennessee Association of
Housing & Redevelopment
Authorities

THDA and Murfreesboro Housing Authority celebrate grand opening of affordable housing apartments

The Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) joined Murfreesboro Housing Authority (MHA) July 30 to celebrate the grand opening of Parkside Apartments, a new affordable housing development near the heart of Murfreesboro. The development was financed in part through low-income housing tax credits awarded by THDA with an equity investment of \$10.5 million. MHA also received a \$600,000 grant through THDA's Tennessee Housing Trust Fund for this development.

"Partnering with Murfreesboro Housing Authority to support the development of affordable housing units that serve the most vulnerable Tennesseans is a top priority for THDA," said THDA Executive Director Ralph M. Perrey. "Our agency holds great pride in providing pivotal funding to help projects like this make it to the finish line."

The development features 46 total units, accompanied by a computer room available for residents to use and a playground on the property. "Parkside represents more than the completion of a construction project, it represents our commitment to preserving affordable housing while creating modern, high-quality homes where families can thrive," said MHA CEO Marquisha Griffin. "This redevelopment honors the history of this community while investing in its future."

Fifth Third Bank also played an instrumental role in financing this project. "Fifth Third is proud to help make this development possible through our \$12-million community development loan, reinforcing our commitment to strengthening communities and improving the lives of the individuals and families we serve throughout Tennessee," said Dave Briggs, Tennessee regional president for Fifth Third Bank.



~NEWS FROM HUD~

HUD Louisville Field Office to attend joint conference

Staff from the HUD Louisville Field Office will attend the TAHRA/KHA Joint Conference in Louisville Sept. 13-16! Led by Carol Spencer, director of the Louisville Field Office, HUD representatives will be onsite throughout the conference, participating in select sessions and staffing a HUD resource table where attendees can connect directly with HUD staff, ask questions, and access valuable information and resources.



The following HUD Louisville Field Office representatives will attend:

- Director Carol Spencer
- Division Director Terri Kingsley
- Program Analyst Sarah Andino
- General Engineer Jared Ison
- Financial AnKim Anderson
- Specialist Kim Harris
- Portfolio Management Specialist Adam Housh
- Portfolio Management Specialist Nicole Hayden
- Portfolio Management Specialist Leslie Epperson
- Portfolio Management Specialist Sonja Redmon

This is a great opportunity to connect with HUD staff members face-to-face, build relationships, and get valuable information directly from the Louisville Field Office.

HUD Joins the NFL and agency partners to support engaging youth through sport

Officials from HUD and the Departments of Health and Human Services, Education and Labor joined Troy Vincent Sr., executive vice president of National Football League (NFL) to announce a federal agency Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) focused on youth engagement through sport. Through this MOU, the agencies will collaborate to identify program sites that connect structured youth programming to academic participation, healthy living, and workforce pathways. The MOU builds on the Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) initiative in underserved communities.



The announcement event was hosted in Indianapolis alongside current and former NFL players, youth athletes, and local community partners. "A key part of HUD's mission is to foster strong families and communities. Sport shapes not only skilled athletes, but the next generation of engaged citizens and leaders," said HUD Secretary Scott Turner. "I am pleased to make this commitment from HUD and our federal agency partners to encourage healthy habits for young athletes' bodies, minds, and spirits. Through public-private partnerships with federal agencies, the NFL, and local organizations, we will equip our youth with the tools they need to lead successful lives."

"When we invest in young people, we strengthen families, neighborhoods and the future of our country. Flag football is more than a sport. It's a platform to teach character, build confidence, encourage teamwork, and create opportunities that last long after the final whistle," said

Troy Vincent, Sr. "We're honored to stand with leaders who share the belief that every young person deserves the chance to grow, compete, and discover what's possible."

In accordance with the President's Council on Sports, Fitness and Nutrition, the MOU highlights how the future of youth development in America lies at the intersection of sport, education and community.

MDHA holds ribbon cutting for newest affordable housing development

The Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency (MDHA) held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Aug. 20 to celebrate the opening of Park Point East, a new housing development featuring 203 apartments. Elected officials, including Mayor Freddie O'Connell, and representatives from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) joined MDHA for the event.

"Park Point East creates a community where longtime residents see the benefits of the vision we created together – right alongside their new neighbors," said Mayor O'Connell. "We want a better quality of life and more affordable city for Nashvillians, and this project reflects both those goals. With the help of the MDHA leadership and the Cayce community, we have built new homes that reflects the voices of residents. This shows the power of collaboration and community conversations to transform a neighborhood."

Park Point East, located at 620 Summer Place, is the eighth new residential development in the Cayce Transformation, which is MDHA's plan to revitalize Cayce Place. Of the development's 203 apartments, 115 are set aside for current Cayce Place residents. With the opening of Park Point East, 806 new units have been built as part of the transformation, with more than half reserved for current residents.

"August marks 85 years since the original Cayce Place opened, so this is an exciting time for residents and the Agency as we begin a new chapter in the story of this development," said MDHA President and CEO Dr. Troy D. White. "We're thankful for the support of our partners and, most importantly, our residents. Buildings may change, but what makes this a community is the people who call it home."

Park Point East includes two apartment buildings and 24 townhomes, with all the units featuring stainless appliances, granite countertops and patios or balconies. Shared amenities include two community rooms, a fitness center and a courtyard with grills. A nine-acre linear park is planned adjacent to Park Point East as part of the Cayce Transformation.

Cayce Place resident LaShonda Corley, who is moving into Park Point East, spoke at the ribbon-cutting. Once a homeowner who later experienced homelessness, LaShonda eventually found housing through MDHA. For her, the new development will have a profound impact on her life.

"When I sit out on my new private balcony and look towards the Nashville skyline, I will constantly be reminded that, although we are classified as low-income, the leadership here in Nashville did not forget about us," said LaShonda. "They have allowed us to be a witness and a testament to the vision to create a successful community that will provide a lasting legacy for generations to come."

Developed with input from Cayce Place residents, stakeholders and community partners, the Cayce Master Plan calls for more than 2,000 units and ensures one-for-one replacement of subsidized units while adding new subsidized, affordable, workforce and market-rate housing. The transformation is being completed in phases to minimize disruptions to residents.

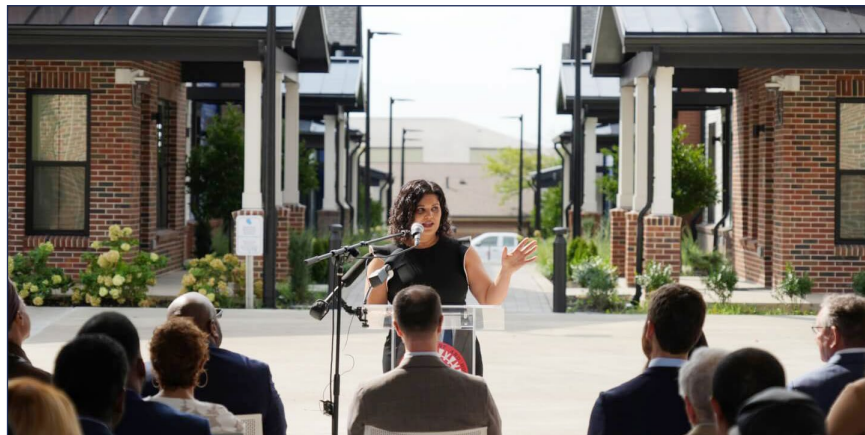
More units are on the way. In the coming months, MDHA will open 5th & Summer, which will be the ninth new residential development at Cayce Place. It will feature 107 units with 66 affordable apartments.



L-R: Rep. Bob Freeman, HUD Region IV Deputy Regional Administrator, Tiffany Cobb, MDHA Board of Commissioner Lita Salinas, MDHA President & CEO Dr. Troy D. White, Park Point East Resident LaShonda Corley, Mayor Freddie O'Connell, THDA Executive Director Ralph Perrey, Vice Mayor Angie Henderson, Councilmember Clay Capp, MDHA Board of Commissioner Brittany Campagna, Councilmember Terry Vo, MDHA Board of Commissioner David Lawrence



MDHA President and CEO Dr. Troy D. White



MDHA Chief of Staff Jamie Berry



Park Point East, a new housing development featuring 203 apartments.



Email articles and
high resolution photos to:
prdesigns22@gmail.com

KHA/TAHRA DERBY HAT DAY

Monday Evening –
Women of KHA/TAHRA
Derby Hat Event

Tuesday Evening –
Silent Auction and
Derby Hat Contest

*Wear your finest hats to be the
OFF TO THE RACES winner!*



Informing TAHRA members and friends since 1984

~TALES OF TAHRA~



News and information for members and friends of the
Tennessee Association of Housing and Redevelopment Authorities