



VAHCDO 2013 ANNUAL REPORT



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VAHCDO Board Member's

President

Michael Wong

Harrisonburg Redevelopment & Housing Authority



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Senior Vice-President

Lisa Porter

Marion Redevelopment & Housing Authority



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Secretary

Sandra Walker

Newport News Redevelopment & Housing Authority



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VAHCDO Board Member's, Cont.

Treasurer

LaTanja Davenport

Richmond Redevelopment & Housing Authority



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Vice President for Public Affairs

& Membership

Madelyn Madison- Hyde

Hopewell Redevelopment & Housing Authority



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Vice President for Community Development

Daniel Simmons

Suffolk Redevelopment & Housing Authority



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VAHCDO Board Member's, Cont.

Vice President for Housing

Donnell Brown

Norfolk Redevelopment & Housing Authority



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Vice President for Professional Development

Aaru Ma'at

Hampton Redevelopment & Housing Authority



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Vice President for Program Services

Brenda G. Willis

Chesapeake Redevelopment & Housing Authority



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VAHCDO Board Member's, Cont.

Past President

Wanda Y. Stevens- Ruckman

Staunton Redevelopment & Housing Authority



wstevens@stauntonrha.org

Vice President At-Large (Legislative)

Arthur Waller

VA Beach Department of Housing & Neighborhood Preservation



awaller@vbgov.com



VAHCDO Vision Statement FY 2014

The Virginia Association of Housing and Community Development Official's vision for FY 2014 emphasis the need for "action", "advocacy" and "leadership".

VAHCDO actions provide its membership with high quality, cost effective, training, and skill development opportunities which promotes industry best practices and networking opportunities. This is accomplished through the association's provision of its annual conference and scholarship luncheon and regional trainings events. Through these actions, VAHCDO will equip its membership with the necessary knowledge and tools to successful navigate the current environment.



VAHCDO advocacy educates at the Federal, State and Local level of the need for adequate resources and regulatory relief to address our membership's mission of providing safe, decent, and affordable housing and supports its critical role in building neighborhoods through its community and redevelopment activities. During FY14, the association was successful in its advocacy to Senator Warner and Senator Kaine in which they agreed to write a joint letter to Housing and Urban Development requesting regulatory relief on behalf of the association membership. The association plans to build on these advocacy successes and continue to dialogue with Virginia's elected official on the need for adequate resources and regulatory reform. To further educate and highlight its membership, the association's website, newsletter and social media tools have been updated to showcase successes and emerging trends.

VAHCDO leadership initiatives focuses on developing existing and emerging leaders within its membership, providing opportunities for leadership through board and committee participation, and promotion of high ethical standards. VAHCDO's vision is that its membership is recognized as national leaders in affordable housing, community and redevelopment industry.

Regards,

Michael Wong,
VAHCDO President



Member Highlights



Norfolk's Largest Assisted-Rental Community Gets Healthcare Center

Norfolk, VA (Dec. 11, 2012) – The first health care center to be located in an assisted-rental community within Virginia opens December 17 at Young Terrace apartments located at 804 Whitaker Lane in Norfolk. A ribbon cutting event will be held at 11 am December 13 and will include remarks from key partners.



HOPEWELL FIRST IN VIRGINIA TO BENEFIT FROM NEW HUD PROGRAM

At a time when affordable housing options are in short supply across the country, the 400-year-old community of Hopewell, Virginia is making plans to improve and expand its workforce housing stock. Thought by some to be the nation's oldest continuously occupied settlement, the City of Hopewell and the Hopewell Housing Redevelopment Authority (HRHA) are actively working to improve the community's affordable housing inventory.

Member Highlights, Cont.



BRHA Executive Named to Leadership Post for Regional Housing and Redevelopment Council

BRISTOL, Va. — Dave Baldwin, executive director of the Bristol Redevelopment and Housing Authority (BRHA), has been appointed to a two-year term as senior vice president of SERC-NAHRO (Southeastern Regional Council-National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials).



Highland Grove in Richmond Celebrates Grand Opening of Initial Phases

Richmond, Va., October 08, 2013 –Laurel Street Residential (LSR) and the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority (RRHA) proudly announce the grand opening of phases I and II of Richmond’s newest mixed-income community, Highland Grove, on Thursday, October 10th at 1:30 p.m. at the intersection of Dove Street and 1st Avenue. City of Richmond Mayor Dwight C. Jones and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Deputy Secretary Maurice Jones will be speaking at the event. The grand opening will also celebrate the project’s stellar accomplishment of nearly doubling the participation goals for minority- and women- owned business enterprises (MWBE) and Section 3 businesses.

Member Highlights, Cont.



New Chair to Lead NRHA Board of Commissioners

Norfolk, VA (November 13, 2013) – F. Nash Bilisoly was elected Chair of the Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority Board of Commissioners at the November 13, 2013 monthly meeting.

A partner with the law firm of Vandeventer Black, LLC, Bilisoly joined the NRHA board in 2010 and replaces retiring chair W. Sheppard Miller, III, who served for 12 years. Barbara Hamm Lee was re-elected Vice Chair. She was appointed to the board in 2010 and is Chief Creative Services Officer for WHRO-TV. “Nash has been a very astute board member and is well positioned to take the helm of the NRHA ship,” said NRHA CEO Shurl Montgomery.” “He and Barbara will make a great leadership team.”

These are only a small fraction of the many accomplishments, anniversaries, meetings, and developments within our organization and members in 2013. We look forward to seeing what 2014 will bring us!!!

VAHCDO New Flyer



VAHCDO IS HERE TO HELP YOU

- Leadership diligently serves the membership's interests and needs through their liaison with Congress, HUD, and other federal agencies.
- Members have the opportunity to articulate how national policies will impact on local programs.
- Opportunities to participate in conferences and training programs puts you in touch with your colleagues throughout the state.
- Provides members with insights into HUD and Congressional actions, job vacancies, and major developments in the public housing field.

The Virginia Association of Housing and community Development Officials (VAHCDO) is dedicated to preserving and maintaining Virginia's existing housing resources; improving the health and living standards of the people of Virginia; and developing new housing opportunities throughout the Commonwealth. VAHCDO represents agencies and localities that use federal, state and local funds for the development, construction and maintenance of housing.

VAHCDO plays an important role in the formulation of housing and redevelopment policy in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Such policy influence results from the strength and support of our member agencies and the effective leadership of Board of Directors. VAHCDO representatives interact regularly with the Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA), Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (VDHCD), Virginia Housing Study Commission, and the Virginia Office of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).



WWW.VAHCDO.ORG



Social Media & Web Updates



A vertical graphic for a Facebook contest. At the top left is a 'Like' button icon with the word 'CONTEST' below it. To the right is the VAHCDO logo, which consists of a green house outline and the text 'VAHCDO VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICIALS'. Below the logo is a large green 'f' icon and the text 'Find us on Facebook'. Underneath that is a blue banner with the text 'Virginia Association of Housing and Community Development Officials'. The main body of the graphic contains the text: 'The Virginia Association of Housing and Community Development Officials (VAHCDO) would like to invite you to join us on Facebook in order to stay connected and well informed on the many events and opportunities we have. We are currently offering a prize to one of our next 100 Facebook members. The winner will receive 50% off the fee of one of our next events. Find us on Facebook and "Like" us today!!!'. At the bottom left is the 'EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY' logo, and at the bottom right are several blue 'Like' icons.



A screenshot of the VAHCDO Facebook page. The top navigation bar includes the Facebook logo, a search bar, and the page name 'Virginia Association of Housing and Community Development Officials'. Below the navigation bar is a table of posts with columns for 'Post', 'Total Reach', 'Paid Reach', and 'Promotion'. The posts include: 'The Virginia Association of Housing and ...' (23 reach), 'Planning for the Future with VHA Neg...' (19 reach), 'Save the Date 2014 VAHCDO Annual C...' (17 reach), 'SAVE THE DATE!!! UPCOMING VAHCDO...' (16 reach), and 'We will be announcing our winner of th...' (28 reach). Below the posts are sections for 'Get More Likes', 'Promote your Page', 'Pages to Watch', 'Build Your Audience', and 'Page Tips'. At the bottom of the screenshot is a photograph of a modern, multi-story residential building with a sign in the foreground that reads 'VAHCDO'.

I. Recent Activity

a. VAHCDO Website Update

- Last year, we revised the VAHCDO website to include many new features, while keeping some of the original and vital information. We gave our website a fresh new look, an official logo, and color to help uniform correspondence, and signage.

b. VAHCDO Facebook Page

- One of our newest forms of communication with our members, partners, and potential members is through the social media forum of Facebook (FB). Through this venue, we are able to keep our members and the community up to date trainings, agency news, and industry updates. We also use FB to post employment opportunities, social events, and contests. Facebook has proven to be very effective for public relations.

Social Media & Web Updates Cont.

- We've implemented a Facebook "Like" drive to influence members and others to become Facebook friends of VAHCDO. In order to accomplish our goal of over 100 "likes", we used three methods; advertised the drive on the organization website, word of mouth, and purchased the Promotion button for our page provided by Facebook (FB). The promotion button on FB spurs FB users to engage our page by using ads to promote the page. The following ads were created: a standard Marketplace ad that appears in the desktop sidebar, Page Like Sponsored Stories that appear in the desktop and mobile feed, and a new type of Page Like ad that appears on mobile. Within 4 days, we collected the 100 plus "likes." The "Like" drive was a success. Please continue to encourage your friend and colleagues to like our Facebook page.

II. Challenges

- a. The biggest challenge we have is collecting new information from our members for our website and Facebook page. Each month, we send an e-mail to each VAHCDO member requesting updated information and/or new items to be posted on the site. These items can include but not limited to employment opportunities, press releases, contact information, current monthly newsletter, calendar events, and much more.
- b. *Response to the challenge:* We will continue to send the reoccurring request for information on the same day every month. Please help us with this effort by submitting pertinent updates from your agency. It is important we lead by example.

Social Media & Web Updates Cont.

III. Upcoming Activities

a. VAHCDO Mailing Labels

- We now have official VAHCDO mailing labels. We have a set of mailing labels used for correspondence to use for public relations, mailing information to members, application packets to potential members. We plan to use the labels for official VAHCDO mass mailings. This will help us in our effort to brand the organization.



b. VAHCDO Facebook

- Our plans with the Facebook webpage are far from complete. We will be doing another “Like” Drive contest within the next quarter. Below are some of the ideas we are considering implementing:
 1. 2nd “Like” drive – This will be used to help increase the number of members/fans of the VAHCDO website. Just as we did with the first “Like” drive, we will offer an incentive to the winner of the drawing, once we’ve reached the pre-determined number of “Likes”.
 2. Photo “Caption This” contest – This will be a fun way to keep our members and fans of the page interactive through social media. We would collect photos from members and ask visitors of the page to add (in the comment box) fun and respectful quotes based on what’s seen in the photo.
 3. Quotes – Inspirational quotes for members of the page to view.

We are always open to suggestions.



Virginia State President's Report

July – December 2013

Board Meeting(s)

- Held one Board meetings: August 23, 2013, in Richmond, Virginia.
- A second Board meeting was held: December 5, 2013, Richmond, Virginia.

Administrative Issues

- VAHCDO's 2013-2015 board of directors participated in a work and planning session which included an orientation for its new board members. The meeting included recognition of the 2011-2013 board of directors for their support and involvement with VAHCDO. VAHCDO is excited about the diversity of its 2013-2015 board and the inclusion of 6 new board members balanced with 6 veteran members.

Virginia State Issues

- VAHCDO participated as a sponsor/exhibitor at the Governor's Housing Conference that was held November 20-22, 2013 in Norfolk, Virginia.
- VAHCDO sponsored and coordinated a conference call with Senator Warner's and Senator Kaine's staff to request a letter be written to HUD for regulatory relief. Several of Virginian's Executive Directors spoke concerning the need for regulatory reform. In early September, Senator Warner and Senator Kaine sent a joint letter to HUD requesting regulatory relief.
- VAHCDO and Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority partnered in sponsoring a reception at the Virginia Governor's Housing Conference in Norfolk on November 20, 2013. John Bohm, NAHRO Senior Policy Director presented a Washington update with the goal of increasing Virginia's legislative advocacy efforts.

Training Report/Planning

- Sponsored training entitled "UPCS: Understanding and Passing REAC". The training was held on August 21-23, 2013, in Williamsburg, Virginia. This training was conducted by VAHCDO's training partner, American Property Consultants. 21 persons attended.
- Sponsored training entitled, "Developing and Managing Project-Based Vouchers". The training was held on September 24-26, 2013, in Williamsburg, Virginia. This training was conducted by VAHCDO's training partner, Nan McKay. 31 persons attended.
- Sponsored training entitled, "HQS Advance Inspector Training". The training was held on April 2-3, 2013, in Williamsburg, Virginia. 27 persons attended.

Virginia State President's Report, Cont.

- Sponsored training entitled, "Virginia Residential Landlord Tenant Act". The training was held December 3, 2013, at the Wytheville Meeting Center, Wytheville, Virginia and on December 10, 2013 at the Newport News Marriott, in Norfolk, Virginia. The training was conducted by VAHCDO's training partner, FutureLaw, LLC.
- Sponsored the 2013 VAHCDO Legal Seminar December 5-6, 2013, at the OMNI Hotel in Richmond, Virginia. Topics include proposed legislative initiatives in Virginia, relevant court cases from around the country, new proposed ruling on Fair Housing, PHA responsibilities under the 2013 version of the Violence against Women's Act. 5 CLEs to be awarded.

Conference Report and Planning

- Planning has started for 2014 VAHCDO Summer Conference and Scholarship Luncheon scheduled for April 29- May 1, 2014 at the Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel in Virginia Beach, Virginia. VAHCDO is expanding the conference format from a 1 and ½ day conference to a 2 day conference format.

Public Affairs & Membership

- VAHCDO updated its trifold conference bulletin board through its purchase of two organizational banners.
- VAHCDO website was updated and revised to reflect the 2013-2015 board membership.

Scholarship Program

- Processed fall semester scholarship payments for the 2013 scholarship recipients.

SERC-NAHRO Issues

- VAHCDO worked on filling its vacant SERC committee positions.

NAHRO Issues

- Sponsored Virginia's 5th Annual "What Home Means to Me" Poster Contest. This poster contest was part of the 2013 Housing America Campaign. The poster contest had 27 entries from 6 different housing authorities with 2 high school students, 3 middle school students and 3 elementary students being recognized and receiving awards. The winners were forwarded to NAHRO to participate in the national contest.
- Members attended the NAHRO Summer Conference July 18-20, 2013, in Denver, CO.
- Members attended the National Conference October 24-26, 2013, in Cleveland, Ohio.



Agenda

**VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF HOUSING AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICIALS
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

May 16, 2013
5:00 p.m.
Virginia Beach
Hilton Oceanfront Hotel

1. Welcome
2. Establishing a Quorum
3. Approval of:
 - A. Minutes of May 12, 2011 Annual Business Meeting
4. Other Business
 - A. Slate of VAHCDO Officers for 2013-2015 Board of Directors
5. Adjournment



Minutes

Annual Business Meeting

**Virginia Association of Housing and Community Development
Officials May 17, 2012
Hilton Oceanfront
Hotel Virginia Beach,
Virginia**

The Annual Business Meeting of the Virginia Association of Housing and Community Development Officials was called to order and a quorum was declared by President Wanda Stevens-Ruckman at 5:05 p.m. on Thursday, May 17, 2012 at the Hilton Oceanfront Hotel. Sixteen members were present.

Ms. Brenda Willis made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2011 Annual Meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Donnell Brown. There being no further discussion, the Minutes were unanimously approved. The financial report was presented by the Treasurer Monique Johnson. Mr. Randy Martin made a motion, and Mr. Dave Baldwin seconded the motion to accept the Treasurer's report dated May 1, 2012. The Treasurer's report was unanimously accepted.

There was discussion about the Father's Day initiative and President Wanda Stevens-

Ruckman encouraged participation among the member agencies. Ms. Brenda Willis announced the availability of an at-large VAHCDO board position due Mr. Jim Gehman's retirement.

There being no further business to come before the Members, Ms. Brenda Willis made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. John Black and unanimously carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:21p.m.

Monique S. Johnson

Secretary-Treasurer



Upcoming Events

2014 VAHCDO Annual Conference and Scholarship Luncheon

April 29th - May 1st, 2014
Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23451

Capital Fund Program Seminar/NAHRO

May 21 – 22, 2014
Organizational Management
Group Headquarters
638 Independence Parkway
Suite 100
Chesapeake, VA

Upcoming Events, Cont.

Fundamentals of Low Income Housing

Tax Credit Management Certification/Nan McKay & Associates

June 3 – 5, 2014
Organizational Management
Group Headquarters
638 Independence Parkway
Suite 100
Chesapeake, VA

UPCS/REAC with Dennis DiBello

American Property Consultants, Inc.

August 20 – 21, 2014
Organizational Management
Group Headquarters
638 Independence Parkway
Suite 100
Chesapeake, VA

August 26 – 27, 2014
Wytheville Meeting Center
333 Community Blvd.
Wytheville, VA