

# HOME FRONT

AN ATLANTA HOUSING PUBLICATION

ATLANTA HOUSING  
**WELCOMES**  
NEW PRESIDENT AND CEO  
**EUGENE  
JONES, JR.**



**"We just lost the Michael Jordan of housing."**

-ACTIVIST AND FORMER CABRINI-GREEN RESIDENT, CHICAGO



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MC1016-155



# MEET THE NEW PRESIDENT & CEO OF ATLANTA HOUSING



## EUGENE JONES, JR.

Dear Residents:

It is with great excitement that I bring you greetings as the new president and CEO of Atlanta Housing. I am happy and proud of this opportunity to lead the largest public housing agency in the state of Georgia and one of the most innovative in the entire nation.

Our job at Atlanta Housing is all about you. You are at the very center of our efforts to preserve affordable housing, because we believe everyone should be able to live, work and thrive in healthy, amenity-rich environments that offer access to transportation, jobs and great schools, and provides resources such as job training, programs for our youth and services for our seniors. Stable housing is the foundation of success, and affordable housing is not just important for those we serve. It positively impacts our communities and our society both economically and socially, so it is important for us all.

As I settle in to my new city and my new position, I will keep at the forefront of my thoughts Atlanta Housing's need to continue partnerships and efforts that not only house our residents but also support our residents through human development services. This kind of support is critical, because it helps to spur economic and educational growth and encourages our seniors to live fuller lives as they age in place. Our approach is intentionally holistic, because we understand that people are the heartbeat of communities, not buildings. We are all better, and so are our communities, when everyone has the opportunity to succeed.

This edition of the newly revamped Home Front publication renews our commitment to keeping our residents better informed about agency and residential happenings. Each issue will include greetings from me, resident highlights and agency updates. We hope you enjoy it.

Saying good-bye to summer is simply an opportunity to say hello to fall. As I close one chapter of my life, I look forward to saying hello to something wonderful and new. Change is inevitable. This change is definitely good!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eugene Jones, Jr.', with a long, sweeping underline.

Eugene Jones, Jr.

# RESIDENTS





## ATLANTA HOUSING INTERNSHIP PROGRAM 2019

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**T**his summer, 14 interns had the opportunity to learn more about the important work we do here at Atlanta Housing (AH). Paired with mentors throughout nine departments, students completed a variety of tasks and participated in activities that support AH's vision and mission. Students volunteered, helped organize a blood drive and participated in outreach efforts supporting our seniors. Interns also participated in weekly lunch-and-learns covering a variety of topics from creditworthiness to budgeting and financial management to entrepreneurship. Our students even went on a property tour, where they learned about AH history and how to apply their areas of study to the work we do. And as a final project, the students worked together to produce a special video to increase awareness for the Atlanta Housing scholarship program.



## COMCAST DIGITAL LITERACY

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Comcast and Atlanta Housing partnered once again to bridge the digital divide for low-income seniors. This past May, senior residents gathered in the Quality Living Services Senior Center (QLS) for what they thought would only be an Internet safety training. Instead, 247 AH residents were surprised with new laptops and one year of free Internet service. This giveaway and event was in conjunction with the Comcast Internet Essentials Digital Safety Rally, which has connected more than six million low-income Americans to low-cost, high speed Internet at home. Together with our corporate partners, we are proud to support our seniors by expanding digital literacy and giving them access to tools that have the power to transform their lives.



## FAMILY FIELD DAY

This year's Atlanta Housing Family Field Day at John H. Harland Boys and Girls Club on Saturday, June 29, brought mothers, fathers, children, grandparents, caregivers and volunteers all together for a full day of field activities, food, music, games and giveaways. Community partners such as Boys & Girls Club of Metro Atlanta, Atlanta Fulton County Libraries, CareSource Georgia, Center for Civil and Human Rights, and Children's Museum of Atlanta all shared resources to help make this event both enjoyable and enriching for the families in attendance. AH aims to strengthen, empower and improve the quality of life for families living in HUD-assisted housing communities. With the support of volunteers and collaborative relationships with community partners, AH gave nearly 100 attendees the opportunity to exercise, eat healthfully and express their creativity through arts and crafts.



## ACSA AND CHOICE NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOLARS

Supporting our scholars is an effort we take serious here at AH. This year, AH awarded over \$56,000 in scholarship funds to 13 students through the Atlanta Community Scholars Award (ACSA), and \$20,000 in Choice Neighborhood scholarship funds to nine students. To give our scholars an added head start on the school year, they each received laptops, courtesy of the General Service Administration. Scholars also received an additional \$150 from The Native Atlanta Alliance and a backpack filled to the rim with school supplies. Through the generosity of these organizations, our scholars are prepared for the first day of school and beyond.

## SENIOR DAY OUT

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On September 19, 2019, nearly 100 seniors from AH communities attended the All White Party hosted by AH partner Senior Day Out. It was a day of fun, fashion, laughter and joy for all who gathered in the fellowship hall of the Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church. Models strutted down the runway with plenty of pep in their step, showing off their finest all-white ensembles, while audience members applauded and enjoyed the show. Music by Marvin Gaye and Diana Ross filled the fellowship hall, and guests danced to the DJ's mix of Motown, jazz and gospel hits. This partnership supports Atlanta Housing's commitment to enriching the lives of the seniors, as we aim to go beyond providing affordable housing options and support seniors so that they may live longer, healthier and happier lives as they age in place.



J.W. Dobbs AVE



## PARK(ING) DAY

AH joined partner Liveable Buckhead at the parking spaces at Lenox Square mall on Friday, September 27, to help transform parking spaces into temporary public parks or creative displays of art or community. This project, affectionately called the "Little House," represents Atlanta Housing's commitment to providing affordable housing for the Atlanta Community. A true team effort, it was designed and constructed by AH's own Ed Desimone then assembled by team members Howard Grant, Elon Osby, Morgan Johnson, Mary Blackett, Cynthia McDonald, and Robert Funk (Dr. Bob).

We are always looking for the **BEST VALUE** and **HIGHEST QUALITY** of goods and services. Become a registered vendor so you can receive notifications of bid opportunities.



ATLANTA  
HOUSING

**BUILDING  
ON  
DIVERSITY  
ONE  
VENDOR  
AT A TIME**



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For more information on how to register or view current contracting opportunities, visit [www.atlantahousing.org](http://www.atlantahousing.org) and select "Doing Business with AH."



Section 3 participants working on the future Herndon Square project pose with AH's Rholanda Stanberry, Assistant Director of Supplier Diversity & Inclusion.



**THERE ARE EIGHT SECTION 3 PARTICIPANTS ON THE HERNDON SQUARE WORK SITE. MOST OF THEM ARE WOMEN.**

# **MEN AND WOMEN AT WORK**

As a recipient of funds from the department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and according to HUD regulations, Atlanta Housing must comply with the provisions of Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968. This act requires that economic opportunities be expended to the “greatest extent feasible” to AH program participants and low- and very-low income individuals in the neighborhoods where they live. As a response to this requirement, AH’s development team, with assistance from AH Human Development Services (HDS), held multiple job fair events to identify Section 3 participants who could perform as laborers at the future Herndon Square (formerly Herndon Homes) during the infrastructure phase.

Additionally, the Contracts & Procurement Supplier Diversity & Inclusion team worked along with the development team to share information about available subcontracting opportunities with minority-focused professional, and trade and contractor organizations through information sessions held specifically for these groups. These sessions provided details about the project, the project schedule, the process for submitting bids, bonding information, license requirements and available technical resources. Potential subcontractors had multiple opportunities to engage with the development team.

In line with Atlanta Housing’s five-year plan, Vision 2020: Live. Work. Thrive., AH provides employment and training opportunities for our residents. We also make deliberate efforts to employ the services of minority- and women-owned businesses owned by economically disadvantaged persons as well as small business owners such as contractors, subcontractors, consultants and service providers. Currently, there are eight Section 3 participants on the Herndon Square work site. Most of them are women. That number is expected to grow once the construction of the senior building begins in January 2020.

# STAY INFORMED

Sign up today to receive text messages from Atlanta Housing.

Want to receive alerts about appointments, AH events and more on your mobile phone? Just text **"Y"** or **"Yes"** to code number **64779** to opt in.

This free service is powered by GroupCast and is compliant with the latest privacy and security policies.

Rest assured that your information is safe and will never be shared or sold.

**Opt-In from your mobile phone now!**



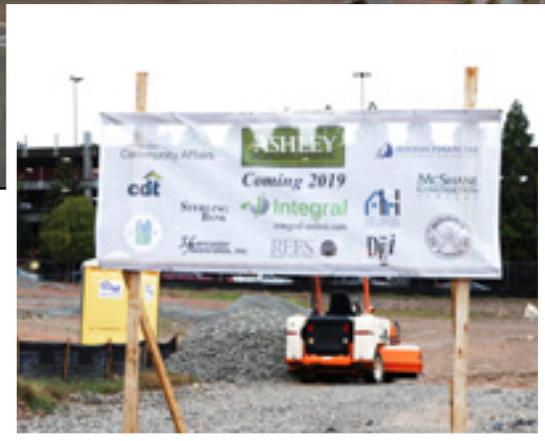
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*Opt out of these messages at any time simply by replying "Stop" to any of our messages.*



ASHLEY SCHOLARS LANDING SITE



# REDEVELOPMENT & RE-OCCUPANCY EFFORTS

## HERNDON SQUARE

The redevelopment of the former Herndon Homes site, renamed Herndon Square, is underway. The vision is to create a master-planned, mixed-use, mixed-income community that features 718 rental and for-sale opportunities, while maintaining approximately 40 percent affordability across project phases. There will be five phases, including 589 multifamily units, 97 senior units, 32 for-sale townhomes, approximately 33,000 square feet of retail and a 20,000 square-foot community education and wellness center. Phase I will produce 97 units of affordable senior housing in a five-story building with surface parking. Phase I is scheduled to close in December 2019. Currently, AH is finalizing the Phase I public infrastructure, scheduled to finish in January 2020. This will be followed by the commencement of the Phase II infrastructure in February 2020. Former Herndon residents and the general public should look for updates and outreach from Atlanta Housing regarding the development, re-occupancy and leasing, and home-buyer activity in Herndon Square.

## ASHLEY SCHOLARS LANDING

Preparation for lease-up for the all-new Ashley Scholars Landing has begun. Former University Homes (FUH) residents who want to return to the revitalized former public housing site will receive first priority. Located in the heart of the historic Atlanta University Center, Ashley Scholars Landing I phase A and B will provide a total of 135 rental units. Eighty percent of these units will serve affordable or workforce populations. This will leave 27 market-rate units. Former residents should be on the lookout for communications from Atlanta Housing with additional information on how to get their names on the former resident priority list. AH will have a single point of contact for FUH residents who have questions. Integral Property Management will work with former residents through the application process. AH will cover associated moving costs, application fees and deposits for qualified re-occupants.

Invest in Better Futures. **Support UNCF.**



450,000+ COLLEGE GRADUATES

60,000+ STUDENTS ATTENDING COLLEGE EACH YEAR

37 MEMBER HBCUs SUPPORTED

10,000

400 SCHOLARSHIPS PROVIDED ANNUALLY  
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Your gift is important. During our special yearlong celebration, please help us continue to light the way toward better futures for us all.

To join the celebration and help deserving students get to and through college email [UNCF75th@uncf.org](mailto:UNCF75th@uncf.org) or visit [UNCF.org/75th](http://UNCF.org/75th).

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