

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS CONNECTION

volume ii, issue i winter 2006

*Meet Resident Super Star,
Charles Ellis*

While many of us stay busy taking care of our own day-to-day responsibilities, there are a special few who go above and beyond to help others. One of those special few is Mr. Charles Ellis, a resident of Golden Leaf Apartments in Wilson, North Carolina. He is an active member of the Resident Council and can often be seen organizing various on-site events for his resident neighbors. For the past two years, he has served as the coordinator for the Senior Recognition Program, which encourages residents to participate in on-site and community activities. In his coordinating role, he has successfully recruited 22 other residents for the program. He works hard to ensure that residents are aware of opportunities to get involved and that they are accurately recording their activity hours. Last Fall, he oversaw the planning of the SRP trip to Myrtle Beach. Mr. Ellis also assisted Site Manager Stewart Mitchell with the administration of the Community Grant Program. This involved creating and distributing a resident survey and compiling its results. As a result of Mr. Ellis' hard work, Golden Leaf residents received picnic tables and benches in time to enjoy their outdoor community space last summer.

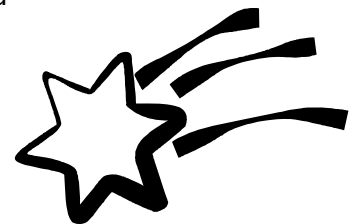
Here is what Stewart Mitchell, Site Manager at Golden Leaf Apartments, has to say about Mr. Ellis:

Charles does a superior job with our resident council. He gives 110% to the tasks assigned him and even more to the duties he assigns himself. Charles helps to orchestrate events from BINGO to covered dish social events. He manages to keep the peace in the very diverse atmosphere that makes up Golden Leaf. With the support of his wife, he has volunteered for several years with a community mental health group to provide counseling and support services. Charles possesses leadership skills and a take-charge attitude which only makes my work easier. Charles is a rare find for me as a manager.

Do you know a "Resident SuperStar"? If so, we want to hear from you! Several times each year, CAHEC will recognize a "Resident SuperStar" in the Community Programs Connection. Each "Resident SuperStar" will also receive a \$25 gift card to a local retailer. Community owners, managers, supportive service coordinators, and residents may make nominations for CAHEC's "Resident SuperStar" award. Nominations can be submitted to CAHEC at any time. Individuals may not nominate themselves.

Send us a one page essay describing why you think this person should be recognized as a "Resident SuperStar". Please be specific!. Send your nominations to: CAHEC

attn: Community Programs
7700 Falls of Neuse Road, Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27615
fax to: (919) 420-0449
email to: hcompton@cahec.com



Also in this Issue:

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2006 CAHEC/NCWN Writing Contest —Call for Entries

Calling All Supportive Service Resources!

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS NEWS & NOTES

Check out this great website for your residents—www.thebeehive.org

Do you have residents looking to turn a great idea into a successful business, find affordable healthcare, work towards a fulfilling career, or learn how to manage their money? If so, tell them to visit www.thebeehive.org. The Beehive is THE place to go for information and resources about the things that matter in our lives: money, health, jobs, school and family. By visiting www.thebeehive.org, residents can browse the site, find hundreds of helpful resources, and even sign up for a free email account! (CAHEC is excited to announce a great partnership with the folks at The Beehive very shortly. Stay tuned!)

Homeownership Program

Last year we provided 10 homeownership grants totaling \$20,000 to residents becoming homeowners. We'd like to provide even more in 2006! If you know a resident working towards becoming a homeowner, please let them know about CAHEC's Homeownership Program. Created as a savings incentive program, residents can receive up to \$3000 in matching funds from CAHEC to be used towards down payment and/or closing costs. For more information, refer to your Community Programs Manual or email hcompton@cahec.com.

Senior Recognition Program

Attention '05/'06 SRP Coordinators: Hopefully, your residents are well on their way to completing their 100 hours. Participants should be planning and hosting their required fundraiser, if they have not done so already. Please also be encouraging participants to discuss their desired destination. Trip destinations should be determined this spring so that we may begin making trip arrangements. Please email hcompton@cahec.com if you have any questions!

Youth Recognition Program

Attention '05/'06 YRP Coordinators: It's hard to believe we're already more than halfway through the school year! YRP fundraisers and community service activities should be well-underway. If your YRP group has not already decided on the trip destination, please do so by mid-March. If you need help or ideas, please email hcompton@cahec.com.

Get Thousands Back in Taxes: Valuable Information for Your Residents

Your residents can get as much as \$4,400 through the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) when they file their federal taxes. About 12 million EITC dollars go unclaimed each year simply because people don't know it exists. Make sure your residents know about this program! For more information, please visit www.thebeehive.org. Click on the "Money" link on the left side of the page.

Supportive Housing Development Workshops

The North Carolina Housing Finance Agency will be holding free supportive housing development workshops during February. The first workshop will be held in Fayetteville on Thursday, February 16th. A second workshop will be held on Tuesday, February 21st in Greensboro. The workshops will provide basic information about developing supportive housing as well as the application process for the NCHFA Supportive Housing Development Program. If you are interested in attending one of these workshops, please contact LaWanda Hall-Davis at 919-877-5707 or at lhldavis@nchfa.com. These one-day workshops are free but require pre-registration.

Submit your entries for the 2006 CAHEC/NCWN Writing Contest!



CONTEST CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS

- **Poetry:**

One poem in any form of verse. No more than one page, single-spaced.

- **Short Fiction:**

An original fictional narrative that incorporates setting, plot development, and characterization. Up to 1250 words or five pages double-spaced.

- **Creative Nonfiction:**

This category includes personal essays, memoirs, reminiscences, and biographical portraits. Up to 1250 words or five pages double-spaced.

CONTEST GUIDELINES

- Residents of CAHEC-financed developments are eligible to participate (including those living outside of North Carolina)
- Entry must be the ORIGINAL work of the entrant.
- Entrants are limited to one entry in each genre, but may enter more than one genre.
- Entries are due no later than **Wednesday, March 15**.
- Entries that received special recognition in the 2005 contest are not eligible. All other previously submitted works are eligible.
- Youth entries must be accompanied by a Statement of Authenticity.
- Entries that do not follow length requirements or contest guidelines will not be accepted.
- Entries cannot be returned, so make a copy of your work!

One

youth and one adult winner will be announced in May 2006. Winners will receive a personal collection of NC author works and recognition at CAHEC and NCWN conferences. In addition, CAHEC and NCWN will provide a collection of books on behalf of the winning resident to his/her apartment community library. All resident participants will receive a certificate of recognition.

Send your entry(ies) by **Wed, 3/15** to:

CAHEC

attn: Writing Contest

7700 Falls of Neuse Road, Suite 200

Raleigh, NC 27615

(919) 420-0449 FAX

hcompton@cahec.com

Spread the word—
Distribute this flyer to your
residents and post on your
community bulletin board!

CAHEC

7700 Falls of Neuse Road
Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27615
Phone: 919.420.0063
Fax: 919.420.0449
www.cahec.com



CAHEC's mission is to raise and invest equity capital in qualified affordable rental housing developments through the use of low income housing tax credits, to empower residents in developments CAHEC helps finance, and to promote homeownership.

Calling all supportive service resources!

Do you remember when you weren't sure where to start in providing supportive service programming to your residents? You know that favorite resource you wish someone had mentioned right away? We think every beginner needs a starting place, and every veteran wants to share that great idea. We'd like to make that process a little easier by putting together a list of service providers to include on our website, but we need some help.

We're planning to start big and go small, meaning we'll start with resources that are national and statewide and eventually transition to more regional lists. For now we'd love to hear what state and national resources you find helpful so we can include them in our March 31 launch.

Please send us your suggestions for supportive service resources by March 1 to Katherine Occhipinti at kocchipinti@cahec.com with the following information:

- Agency name
- Telephone number
- Website address
- Services provided

Thanks for your help!