

THE COMMUNITY

CONNECT

2024 ISSUE 01



Directory.

HACG Main Building
700 N. Jefferson Ave.
(919) 735-4226

Occupancy
1608 E. Holly St.
(919) 735-4226 x 1135

FSS
1608 E. Holly St.
(919) 750-6957

Jobs Plus
1009 Slaughter St.
(919) 750-6847

ROSS
1906 Edgerton St.
(919) 735-4226 x 1301

Resident Services
1906 Edgerton St.
(919) 735-4226 x 1301

Fairview Apartments
1729 Edgerton St.
(919) 735-4226 x 1133

Lincoln Homes
1009 Slaughter St.
(919) 735-4226 x 1137 or 1138

Elmwood Terrace
409 Hinson St.
(919) 735-4226 x 1140 or 1141

West Haven Development
701 West Oak St.
(919) 735-4226 x 1142 or 1143

GHA Maintenance Emergencies
(919) 735-4080

Law Enforcement (Non-Emergency)
(919) 705-6572



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www.hacg.org





To Register or Login scan the QR code or visit:

myportal.hacg.org



REGISTER NOW!



Apply to open waitlists!



HACG Calendar!



Mobile Access!



Save My Spot!



Contact the Occupancy Department!



Review and update your information!



Rent Café is your online connection to the Housing Authority of the City of Goldsboro!



**“NO MATTER
WHAT IS
THROWN YOUR
WAY, IF YOU ARE
STILL HERE,
THERE IS AN
OPPORTUNITY
TO BOUNCE
BACK, TO
BECOME
SOMETHING YOU
NEVER IMAGINED
POSSIBLE.”**

FROM THE CEO

As we embrace the warmth and energy of the approaching summer season, I want to take a moment to express my appreciation for each of you and the resilience you've shown in navigating through recent times. As the days grow longer and the weather invites us outdoors, let us seize this opportunity.

Our dedicated staff members are here to ensure your needs are met and your concerns addressed. Whether it's assistance with housing matters, accessing resources, or simply providing a friendly face, please don't hesitate to reach out. Together, we can make this summer a time of growth and positivity for all. No matter what is thrown your way, if you are still here, there is an opportunity to bounce back, to become something you never imagined possible.

Let's harness the momentum of this season to foster stronger bonds, pursue personal goals, and collectively contribute to the vibrancy of our community.

If you want to be the first to get updates on news and community resources, connect with us on social media and subscribe to receive these updates by email or text on our website at hacg.org or through your RENTCafe portal.

Your contributions are invaluable, and I am confident that by working together, we can create a summer filled with warmth, support, and shared successes.

ANTHONY GOODSON, JR.
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Sharita Oates, COO

The Housing Authority of the City of Goldsboro (HACG) proudly announces the appointment of Sharita Oates as its Chief Operating Officer (COO), effective April 8, 2024.

Throughout her tenure with HACG, Mrs. Oates has demonstrated steadfast dedication to the agency's mission of providing safe, quality, and affordable housing to families, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. Her unwavering commitment to excellence and her firsthand enthusiasm in empowering residents and staff have made her the ideal candidate for the COO position.

The agency eagerly anticipates harnessing her expertise to advance its mission and uphold its tradition of excellence in delivering housing services.



35 Years of Service



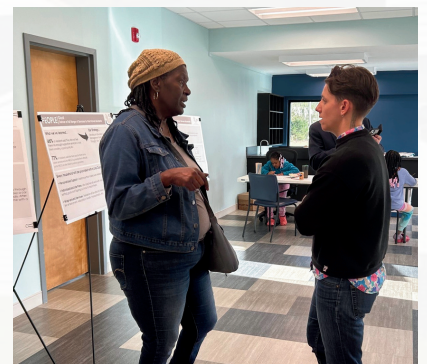
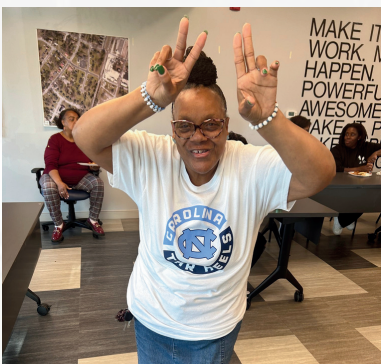
It was an honor for HACG's current staff to come together with retirees and our board of commissioners to celebrate Matilda's 35 years of service to The Housing Authority of the City of Goldsboro. There is no question that she has dedicated her career to the success of the housing authority. Over the years Matilda has worn many hats for HACG and with each one she was able to use what she learned and implement that knowledge for the greater good of the agency. Matilda has been steadfast in her principles and always worked to see that HACG would succeed in its endeavors. Not only has she been diligent in her work, but she has always been a listening ear for anyone that just needed to talk whether it was work related or personal. A loyal employee, a diligent worker, and a good friend is the best way to describe Matilda Bedford. We are all very proud of her in all that she has accomplished and wish her the very best in her retirement!

CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE CELEBRATES MAJOR MILESTONE!

The Housing Authority of the City of Goldsboro recently celebrated the completion of community surveys needed to put together the Choice Neighborhood Initiative grant plan. These surveys, packed with over 60 questions, delved deep into our community's desires and visions for the new West Oak neighborhood. Delicious food and fun activities for the kids made every moment joyful. Information boards showed our progress with the plan, leading to lively conversations among everyone. But the real thrill came with our raffle draws! Congratulations to Akela, who walked away with a cool \$500, and Robin, the lucky winner of our \$250 business survey raffle, which was conducted in collaboration with the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce. It was a day of laughter, camaraderie, and community spirit—a true testament to the vibrancy of the future West Oak!

The Choice Neighborhood Initiative is a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development program that awards cities planning and implementation grants to improve their communities and turn them into neighborhoods of choice. “The Choice Neighborhood Grant aims to benefit Goldsboro and the residents of West Oak by providing resources and support for comprehensive neighborhood revitalization,” Goodson said. “The grant will improve housing, infrastructure, education, and community services in the area, ultimately enhancing residents’ quality of life. By fostering collaboration and strategic planning, the grant will lead to positive changes that address the community’s needs and priorities. The Choice Neighborhood Grant will have an economic impact on Goldsboro by more than \$250 million.”

To learn more about Choice Neighborhoods, contact our Community Engagement Coordinator by calling 919.735.4226 ext. 1300, emailing cniengagement23@gmail.com, or visiting westoakchoice.com.





We love books!

We had an amazing time at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Wayne County literacy program!

We shared books and colored with the kids while chatting with parents and Mayor Gaylor about our Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (CNI).
Congrats to Terri Valmer, our lucky \$25 raffle winner!



CNI Presentation at the Goldsboro Rotary Club



We shared insights on our Choice Neighborhoods Initiative during a presentation at the Goldsboro Rotary Club, engaging members in our efforts to revitalize the community. The session highlighted our commitment to fostering positive change and building stronger, more vibrant neighborhoods together.

CNI Planning Meeting



We've been diving into some fantastic discussions with community leaders and residents, brainstorming ideas like bringing a Black History Museum to Downtown Goldsboro, deciding on amenities for West Oak residents, and envisioning the community park we're eager to create. Your input is invaluable as we shape the future together! Learn more about this comprehensive neighborhood transformation by visiting westoakchoice.com.



Cookies With Cops!

Our West Haven and Lincoln Homes neighborhoods came together to discuss safety and build community bonds with local law enforcement over cookies. Both events were a success! Together, we can make a difference!

CCHRCO Resident Retreat



Our residents had an incredible experience at the 2024 Carolinas Council of Housing Redevelopment & Codes Officials (CCHRCO) Resident Retreat! From March 27-29, in Concord, NC. These ladies immersed themselves in training seminars focused on self-sufficiency, community revitalization, and family empowerment.



Partner Spotlight - Omegas

On behalf of our agency and the senior residents, we extend heartfelt thanks to the **Phi Alpha Alpha Chapter of Omega-Psi-Phi** for their monthly assistance in distributing food boxes. Your dedication is deeply appreciated and makes a significant impact on our community.



Partner Spotlight - Zetas

We are grateful for the invaluable support and expertise shared by the **Zeta Chi Zeta Goldsboro Chapter** in our Lincoln Learners afterschool activities.



SELF-SUFFICIENCY

ROSS

Residents of Fairview, Park Court, West Haven, Trinity Court, and Section 8 Housing! Unlock a world of opportunities with the ROSS Program!

By participating in the ROSS Program, you'll gain valuable support and guidance tailored to your needs, whether it's advancing your career, improving your education, or enhancing your overall well-being.

Ready to take the next step? Inquire about the ROSS Program by completing the inquiry form on HACG.com or give Jedidiah Hayes, our ROSS Coordinator, a call at 919-735-4226 ext. 1301.

Don't miss out on this chance to turn your goals into reality.

ROSS Spotlights

Participant **T. Wilson**, through the assistance of the ROSS Program was able to attend the Sampson Community College's CDL/Truck Driver's Training Course and successfully obtain CDL and course completion certification. Through hard work and consistency, she is well on her way to accomplishing her self-sufficiency goals.



Latasha Pickett recently graduated from the Legacy Institute - Natural Hair School with her Certification in Natural Haircare. She's moving on to pursue a lucrative career in the haircare industry. She is an active participant in the FSS Program and has committed to accomplishing more self-sufficiency-related goals!

Jobs Plus

Are you ready to take charge of your future? Year three of Jobs Plus is in full swing, offering essential support to Lincoln Homes residents aged 18-64, as well as teens aged 14-17. With 213 individuals already benefiting from our program, now's the perfect time to join us!

Our dedicated team provides assistance with daycare, transportation, job searching, continuing education opportunities, and GED attainment. We also offer valuable financial coaching, aiding in money management, establishing bank accounts (no Chime or Cash App cards), ensuring timely rent and bill payments, debt management, and credit rebuilding. Available Monday through Thursday, Stop by and let us help you unlock your potential!

Jobs Plus Spotlight

Sequolia Dunn I was out of work during the Pandemic in the profession of Cosmetology. Jobs Plus opened the door for me to get back in the work field and inspired me to change career paths. My case manager, Ms. Joi helped me to go back to school to get certified as Effective Teacher 1 in Feb 2022, and shortly after I started working for Wayne County Public Schools as a Full-Time Substitute Teacher.



I have been with WCPS ever since and I am enjoying every moment of it. Jobs Plus also gave me to opportunity to become a Community Coach in Lincoln Homes and connect with residents. I'm able to share information about Jobs Plus, Resident Services, ways to become more self-sufficient, and share stories about what Jobs Plus has done for me specifically. Jobs Plus also helped me with my finances by offering Financial Literacy courses where I learned about budgeting and saving money. I was able to catch up my bills the right way and in a timely manner. Thank you so much Jobs Plus..

Jobs Plus Spotlight

Ms. Crystal initially visited the Jobs Plus office to enroll in their program because she needed assistance in finding a job and with transportation. She received support such as clothing for interviews, transportation to interviews, orientation, and eventually securing a job. Additionally, she was enrolled in the rent incentive program to prevent her rent from increasing, and everything seemed promising.

However, just a few weeks after starting her new job, she stopped working. When she returned to the Jobs Plus office requesting bus tickets to search for another job, staff noticed signs of distress: she appeared anxious, had difficulty concentrating, and displayed bruising on her arms. Concerned, they asked if she was alright, and Ms. Crystal revealed that she was struggling with depression, substance abuse, and domestic violence at home.

The staff immediately reached out to Wayne Uplift to offer her a safe haven and resources. Although she initially resisted making changes, they referred her to mental health and substance abuse services. Unfortunately, after a week, they learned that she had attempted to overdose and was hospitalized. Upon reaching out again, she finally accepted help, expressing the need to escape her current environment of substance use and abuse.

With the collaborative efforts of property management, maintenance staff, Wayne Uplift, and the Jobs Plus team, Ms. Crystal was admitted to a treatment program out of state. She was provided with essential items such as a phone, clothes, and transportation to reach the program. Despite feeling scared, she was determined.

We're delighted to share that since entering the program, Ms. Crystal has remained clean and sober. She has also secured a job, rediscovered her faith, and is thriving.

We're immensely proud of Ms. Crystal's progress and grateful for her willingness to share her story. Her journey underscores the importance of reaching out for help when facing challenges.

To all residents of our community: if you find yourself in a situation similar to Ms. Crystal's, please don't hesitate to contact us. We're here to support you on your journey towards a brighter future. You're not alone.





Meet the Team:

- **Cassandra Hinnant** is our Youth Coordinator and works with Jobs Plus Teens, scholarships, academic success, and all things involving our teens. Cassandra can be reached at 919-750-3046.
- **Joi Peacock** is our financial specialist and can provide educational resources on best practices for saving, making wise money decisions, and investing. Joi can be reached at 919-750-5429.
- **Nate Dupree** is the president of the Re-Entry Council for Wayne County and works with the justice-involved residents to help them with job searching and connects them to other community resources. Nate can be reached at 919-750-5477.
- **Thad Washington** is our Job Developer and the Section 3 Coordinator and works with all communities, not just Jobs Plus. Mr. Thad can be reached for job search assistance at 919-750-9026.

The Jobs Plus Case Managers are available Monday through Thursday to help the residents in Lincoln Homes reach their goals. Jobs Plus will continue to offer onsite hiring events with local companies and Staffing Agencies, as well as offering Financial Freedom classes and job search assistance. For more information about the Jobs Plus program, please reach out to one of the case managers, or contact the Jobs Plus Director, **Ayisha Razzak-Ellis**, at aellis@hacg.org or 919-750-6847.

Aging in Place

The Housing Authority of the City of Goldsboro continues to be committed to helping older residents age in place by providing services and resources to assist them in different aspects of life.



Senior Pantries

Pantries are available at each management office with supplies for seniors 62 and older who need toilet paper, adult diapers, soap, dish detergent, and laundry soap.

These pantries should be used as needed, not as a monthly resource. Senior residents who have a need can contact the property managers on Wednesday mornings between 10 am and 11:30 am for assistance!

Starting in July 2024, HACG is set to introduce a range of wellness resources and health-related information, covering topics such as diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, smoking cessation, and COPD. While open to everyone, these sessions will primarily target seniors, aiming to equip them with educational resources to prevent and manage chronic health conditions effectively.



Senior Grocery Rides

HACG Seniors 55+ needing transportation to the grocery store can now use our ride service! You must contact Thad Washington at 919-750-9026 to let them know if you need a ride a week prior.



Senior Food Boxes

Food boxes will continue to be delivered on the 2nd Tuesday of each month to residents 60+ who meet the income requirements.



Senior Computer Classes

Looking to become more technology savvy? Participate in our Digital Skills Ready@50+ classes and workshops hosted monthly. Big congrats to Ms. Janice for scoring a brand new laptop!



Senior Fun Day

Our first test run of Senior Fun Day in West Haven was a success! From 11 to 3, we had board games, puzzles, card games, and more, along with snacks, drinks, and coffee. About a dozen seniors dropped by, some staying the whole time, others just for a quick chat and a snack. It was a blast playing games and cards together. Stay tuned for upcoming opportunities!





*We sincerely thank our **Lawn Crew** for their outstanding work and dedication in giving our properties such a beautiful makeover this spring!*

Properties pictures from left to right: Park Court, Lincoln Homes, Walnut Street School Apartments, and West Haven.

Wellness & Safety



Mobile Mental Health

The Carter Clinic dispatches a mobile unit, equipped to provide residents with virtual appointments with clinicians, medication management, assessments and more.

No appointments are necessary, stop in whenever you see the unit in your neighborhood.



Healthy Summer Tips:

1. Hydrate well.
2. Eat fresh fruits and veggies.
3. Avoid sugary drinks.
4. Use sunscreen and protective clothing.
5. Stay active outdoors.

Following these guidelines can help you stay healthy and prevent chronic diseases during the summer months.

Cooking Safety Tips:

- Never leave pots unattended on the stove.
- Never cook while drowsy.
- No children near the stove while cooking.
- Keep the stovetop area and oven clean and free of any flammables.
- Never use the oven for storage or as a source of heat for the unit.
- Wear short or tight-fitting sleeves while cooking.
- Never remove/cover smoke detectors. Report inoperable smoke detectors to maintenance.

In Case Of An:

- Oven Fire - Turn off the oven, and keep the oven door closed.
- Grease Fire - Cover the pan with a lid and turn off the heating element. Never use water or move the pan



“A good laugh and a long sleep are the best cures in the doctor’s book.”
– Irish proverb

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- More than 1300 job openings with the State of North Carolina. Which one is right for you? Make your next career move at nc.gov/jobs
- 197 positions available through Wayne County Public Schools; visit waynecountyschools.org to view job openings!
- View positions currently available within Wayne County Government at waynegov.com/Jobs.aspx

ALSO HIRING:

WAYNE UNC HEALTH CARE
WAYNE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CITY OF GOLDSBORO
MT. OLIVE PICKLES
CASE FARMS
BUTTERBALL
MEGAFORCE
JMA PLACEMENT

Find more opportunities at indeed.com.
Contact resident services for assistance
at (919) 735-4226 x 1301.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Basic Driving Class

Our Basic Driving Class hosted by A+ Driving School provides Adults (18+) the education needed to drive skillfully and safely—to protect themselves and other drivers on the road.

This class is offered for FREE twice a month at the Fairview Community Center. To learn more or to register contact Resident Services at 919.735.4226 ext. 1301.



Food Assistance

Three-In-One Family Center:
Mondays at 700 Stevens Mill Rd.
Starting at 10 am.

Community Soup Kitchen of Goldsboro:
112 W Oak St.
Goldsboro, NC 27530

Let's Talk Womens Support Group

Ladies, if you need a support group that encourages you and pushes you to that next level, Then be sure to join us!

Our group meets monthly at the Fairview Community Center. Visit our website calendar for upcoming dates.



Fairview Computer Lab is Open!

Need to complete applications? Need to job search? Need to type a document? Visit the Fairview Community Center's Computer lab during regular business hours.

Please call 919.735.4226 ext. 1301 if you have any questions or need assistance.

Sharpen your Money Management Skills!

Join us for our Financial Freedom sessions held monthly to learn how to budget, open a bank account, or repair your credit.

Visit our website calendar for upcoming event dates, or reach out to a self-sufficiency program for individual assistance.



Summer Reminder

HACG has banned the ownership of basketball goals, trampolines, swimming pools, and satellite dishes on the premises.

Trampolines and swimming pools are banned for safety reasons. Basketball goals and satellite dishes affixed to the dwelling unit are banned due to damage to the grounds.



West Haven Bingo



Our West Oak and West Haven Community Bingo event was a roaring success! The room was packed with intense competition, hilarious number calls, and lots of laughter. Congratulations to all the winners who took home fantastic prizes! Let's do it again soon!



Student Spotlights

Academic Star, Emmanuel Swift

We are thrilled to highlight Emmanuel Swift, a shining example of academic excellence at Carver Heights Elementary! Emmanuel, a true academic star, has not only aced the ELA assessment but has also proudly secured the prestigious Math Achievement Award. Emmanuel's dedication to his studies and his remarkable achievements serve as an inspiration to us all.

As Emmanuel's lunch buddy, Nathaniel Dupree, Jobs Plus Case Manager, can attest, Emmanuel's achievements extend far beyond the classroom. His kindness, compassion, and unwavering commitment to excellence make him a cherished member of our school community.

Congratulations, Emmanuel, on your outstanding achievements! Keep shining!



Shining Star, Nazhir Graham

Nazhir Graham, a shining star in our Jobs Plus Teen program, recently attended a monthly Reentry Council meeting. His academic achievements and positive influence on fellow teens caught the council's attention, earning him a well-deserved standing ovation.

Many attendees approached Nazhir, impressed and inspired, asking if he could share his positivity with their teens.

Let's celebrate the power of mentorship and the impact one individual can have on the lives of others!



Spring Break Activities



The 2024 spring break commenced with onsite activities tailored for younger children, comprising Easter egg hunts in each community, painting sessions, tie-dye t-shirt crafting, and "What Home Means to Me" poster parties. Regrettably, due to inclement weather in the Raleigh/Durham area, the scheduled trip to the Life and Science Museum had to be postponed.

We look forward to making this much anticipated getaway up to our youth soon!



SERC MLK Weekend



Our dedicated youth showcased incredible spirit and talent on the courts and mats at the 30th Anniversary SERC MLK Basketball & Cheer Tournament in Opelika, AL,

While we may not have secured the basketball tournament victory, our HACG Hornet Cheerleaders brought home well-deserved 1st place honors in the cheer competition. Their hard work and enthusiasm truly shone on the mat.

The banquet's selfie station provided a fun and interactive way for our group to capture lasting memories. Smiles, laughter, and camaraderie filled the air as we commemorated our 30th-anniversary celebration.

Witnessing the Auburn University women's basketball team triumph over LSU was a thrilling highlight of our trip. The energy in the arena and the skill displayed by the athletes added an extra layer of excitement to our overall experience.

Our youth's achievements, the exciting basketball game, the delightful meals, and the festive atmosphere at the banquet all contributed to a memorable and enriching experience. We look forward to next year!



Teen Advisory Board



What an EPIC way to end spring break! Our Teen Advisory Board took on Washington, DC in style! The teens were transported on a chartered bus, stayed in an Airbnb, and visited the African American History Museum, the Holocaust Museum, the Smithsonian Zoo, National Harbor, and ended the trip with a stop at the Tanger Outlets in Maryland. The teens were able to learn some history, enjoy time with friends, and eat delicious foods.

If you're 14-17, interested in being a voice for youth in your community, and ready for unforgettable experiences like this, hit up Cassandra Hinnant at chinnant@hacg.org or 919-750-3046.



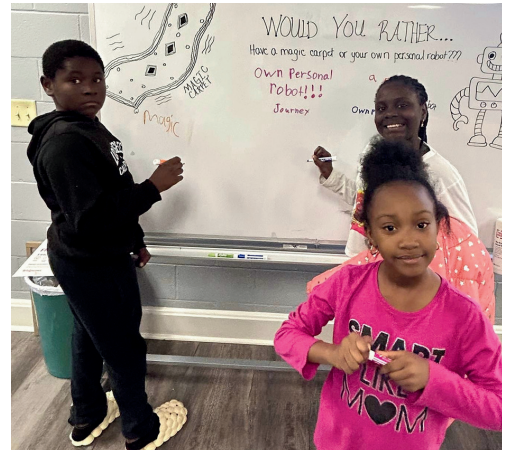
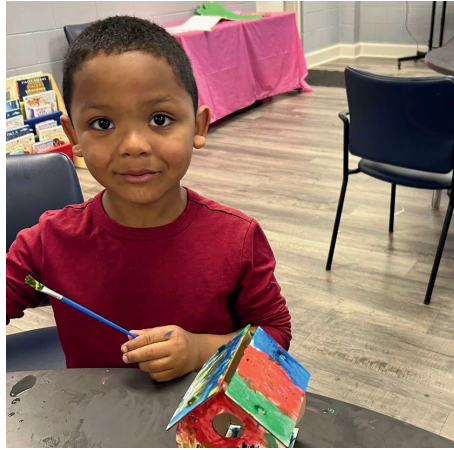
Lincoln Learners Afterschool



Our incredible youth dive into a variety of after-school activities – from enjoying snacks and getting creative with coloring, art, STEM projects to exploring electronics. It's a space where they socialize with peers and have the chance to make lifelong friends. The kids are truly enjoying themselves, and we're thrilled to see their enthusiasm.

Check our website calendar for upcoming activities in Lincoln.







Partners In Education

HACC takes great pride in its ongoing partnerships with multiple schools as part of our esteemed Partners in Education initiative. This quarter, when Dr. Theresa Cox, Principal of Wayne Middle/High Academy expressed her intent to establish a food and clothing pantry for students and families facing hardship, HACC sprang into action without hesitation. Our Resident Services Staff coordinated a food and clothing drive, resulting in the collection of over 1,000 pounds of food and numerous loads of gently used clothing. These essential donations were handed over to Dr. Cox and the WMHA team to bolster their endeavors. Dr. Cox's recent report reveals that through the Jaguar Food Pantry, they've successfully provided food and clothing to over 25 families from both WMHA and neighboring schools.

CHE Career Day

Our passionate Jobs Plus Case Managers inspired fourth graders at Carver Heights Elementary's career day. They shared stories of empowerment and support, fueling dreams with their enthusiasm for helping others succeed.



Jobs Plus Staff join in with their Lunch Buddies for Wacky Wednesday at CHE!

