

Housing Authority of the City of Annapolis

Executive Director
Vincent O. Leggett

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HACA Responds to the Citizen Advisory Transition Report-Public Housing

Annapolis MD, November 12, 2014: More than fifteen hundred people rely on the HACA for the place they call home. That, by itself, defines our mission. Most of them are low-and moderate income people, with kids and often extended family in the home- a grandparent on Social Security or an uncle who served in uniform. Our job is to provide them safe and affordable homes, and connect them to the educational and economic opportunities that will help them prosper.

During the past year HACA experienced unprecedented budget cuts and a near government shutdown but we were able to keep our doors open and continue to provide services and programs to our clients. Despite these challenges, we made great progress as we continued to empower our residents and transform our communities.

Despite the financial difficulties noted above, HACA has had a number of major achievements for 2013. Among them were:

- Newtowne Twenty and Morris H. Blum passed the Real Estate Assessment Center's (REAC) Inspection
- We met HUD's 98% reporting requirement for processing annual recertifications. Designated as a Standard Performer
- Successfully completed HUD's Maintenance Recovery Plan
- Average Occupancy rates at 98%
- Community Development Block Grant of \$27,500 received for the rehabilitation of the Rosalie E. Mitchell Community Center (Harbour House)
- HACA was awarded a grant of \$838,500 from the State of Maryland for the Energy Modernization and Weatherization project in the Harbour House Community.
- HACA partnered with AAMC in the opening of the AAMC Community Clinic at Morris H. Blum
- Continuing to work with the Annapolis Police Department on public safety. We have also expressed a willingness to work with APD and the ACLU as it relates to the banning list.

I thank HACA's dedicated staff, partners and supporters including: Resident leadership, not-for-profit organizations and City and County officials. I also would like to acknowledge the dedication and effectiveness of HACA's Board of Commissioners. HACA's newly elected Board of Commissioners chairwoman, Cynthia Carter stated that *"It is my intent, as the new Chair of the HACA Board, to continue the policies and procedures that have so honorably been carried out by HACA's CEO Vincent Leggett. HACA is going in the right direction."*

HACA has enjoyed a good working relationship with the Annapolis City Council in reaching many of our achievements and we look forward to an on-going collaborative and productive relationship.

Vincent O. Leggett, Executive Director
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