

INGERSOLL COMMUNITY CENTER GRAND OPENING IN FORT GREENE NEIGHBORHOOD OF BROOKLYN

By Eileen Elliott

CHRISTMAS CAME EARLY FOR THE RESIDENTS OF INGERSOLL AND WHITMAN HOUSES AND THE FT. GREENE COMMUNITY WITH THE GRAND OPENING AND RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY OF THE RAYMOND V. INGERSOLL COMMUNITY CENTER ON AN UNSEASONABLY WARM NOVEMBER 9TH MORNING. Gathered together in the new gymnasium of the \$7 million, two-story, 18,000 square-foot facility, stakeholders, including residents, elected officials, and New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) staff seemed to breathe a single, collective sigh of relief that after eight long years the Center was open and serving residents. The sentiment was best expressed by Department of Community Operations Deputy General Manager Hugh B. Spence when he began his remarks with a single-word sentence, "Finally."

"It's taken far too long," said NYCHA Chair John B. Rhea as he apologized for all of the times residents were told, "It's coming." But on the positive side, he noted, "We have indeed kept our promise. I'm sure as you walk through the Center, you'll see that it was worth the wait."

The Ingersoll Community Center is one of several centers designed by NYCHA to replace existing, inadequate facilities that were typically in basements of large NYCHA developments.

As a cost-savings measure, the facility was built on the 6,000 square-foot footprint of the previous center, and expanded to make room for the gymnasium, which has a full basketball court. Other special features of the Community Center include radiant heating, a second story library with a skylight, a curved

glass block enclosed cafeteria and exterior gardens.

"We are at the tail end of a great legacy—to provide new facilities throughout the City," said Mr. Spence. "I think we have three or four more."

Thanks to the Department of Youth and Community Development's (DYCD's) sponsorship, a full range of cultural, educational and recreational programs have been ongoing at Ingersoll since its unofficial opening in September. These include classes in arts and crafts, dance, fashion and sewing, homework help, group games and open recreation.

"We are thrilled to join forces with NYCHA to provide New York City families with the high quality after-school and adult programming they deserve," said DYCD Commissioner Jeanne

B. Mullgrav who was represented by DYCD Assistant Commissioner Bill Chong.

DYCD operates 25 of the 68 sponsored community centers on NYCHA property. Sixty-seven of NYCHA's 135 community centers are operated directly by NYCHA.

"This is a great day for Fort Greene, a great day for Brooklyn, a great day for Ingersoll," said City Council Member Leticia James. Ms. James, along with Assembly Member Hakeem Jeffries thanked the many elected officials, resident leaders and NYCHA staff who worked to get the Center open.

Resident Association President Edward Brown captured the poignancy of the moment when he said in closing, "I think it's safe to say now, welcome to the Raymond V. Ingersoll Community Center."



ADDRESSING CONCERNS NYCHA Chair John B. Rhea discusses the Housing Authority's plan to obtain funding for the 21 City- and State-built developments at a public hearing held on December 17th at the Manhattan Center in midtown.

NYCHA HOLDS PUBLIC HEARING ON REVISED FY2010 AGENCY PLAN

ON THE EVENING OF DECEMBER 17TH, NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY (NYCHA) RESIDENTS JOINED HOUSING ADVOCATES, ELECTED OFFICIALS AND NYCHA EXECUTIVE STAFF IN THE HAMMERSTEIN BALLROOM OF THE MANHATTAN CENTER IN MIDTOWN FOR TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ISSUES RELATED TO THE REVISION OF NYCHA'S U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD)-REQUIRED FY2010 ANNUAL AGENCY PLAN. The revision would allow NYCHA to bring the 21 unfunded City- and State-built developments into the federal program, reducing by almost two-thirds the Housing Authority's structural budget deficit of \$150 million.

NYCHA has this historic opportunity thanks to a provision of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which provides for a one-time exception to the prohibition of federal support for additional public housing units.

"It is really important that all of you know that the NYCHA team here has been working really, really hard with our advisers, with HUD, with the City and with the State to get over the many hurdles that in the past really made our access to a federalization strategy impossible to overcome," NYCHA Chair John Rhea told the attendees.

The Chair explained that NYCHA will lease the land the 21 developments are on to a newly created public/private limited partnership, with NYCHA as the managing partner. The life of the lease will be a minimum of 15 years.

"We can only federalize these developments with a mix of private and public money, as we are not allowed to use Stimulus money alone to fund this process," the Chair added.

Chair Rhea emphasized that the day-to-day lives of residents of the 21 developments will not change if the plan passes.

Forty-four speakers brought their concerns to the microphone, most of whom, whether elected officials or residents, wanted additional reassurances that the units would not be privatized once the lease expires. Virtually everyone who spoke expressed their appreciation for NYCHA's need to secure additional funding.

Currently NYCHA uses the federal funding it receives for its 315 federal developments for operating costs at all 336 developments in its portfolio. See "Chair's Column," page 3 for more.



NEW BEGINNINGS (left to right) Capital Projects Acting Deputy General Manager Yianna Pavlakos, Department of Operations Deputy General Manager Gloria Finkelman, Brooklyn Borough Director Marguerite Mann, Secretary Vilma Huertas, DYCD Deputy Commissioner Bill Chong, City Council Member Leticia James, Vice-Chair Earl Andrews, Jr., Ingersoll Houses Resident Association President Edward Brown, NYCHA Chair John B. Rhea, Brooklyn West Council of Presidents Chair Raymond Ballard, Senior Program Manager Eric Cumberbatch and Community Operations Deputy General Manager Hugh Spence at the Ingersoll Community Center ribbon-cutting.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

A Record 20,000 Job Placements in 2009



AFTER ACHIEVING A RECORD HIGH OF MORE THAN 17,000 JOB PLACEMENTS IN 2008, IN MY STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS FOR 2009, I SET THE GOAL OF 20,000 JOB PLACEMENTS. I am proud to say that despite the economic recession, as of November 2009, our Workforce1 Career Centers have achieved the 20,000 placements, up 42% from

last year, and they've done it ahead of schedule. The goal was achieved by expanding the City's Workforce1 Career Center hours, creating new sector-based workforce centers and focusing on identifying job opportunities in growth industries.

NYC's Workforce1 Career Centers reach New Yorkers across the City's five boroughs. New Yorkers can find and prepare for employment with free services, including career counseling; advice on how to interview for a job; assistance creating resumes and cover letters; job placement services; career workshops; employer recruitment events; and connection to occupational skills training. New Yorkers can find their nearest Workforce1 Career Center by calling 311.

As part of the plan to create jobs and support the City's workforce, small businesses and homeowners, we have implemented several initiatives including: expanding capacity at existing Workforce1 Career Centers; creating Careerlinknyc.com, a comprehensive website to assist laid-off workers; upgrading Workforce1 Career Center technology infrastructure by investing nearly \$3 million to enhance the process of matching job seekers to job opportunities; and opening new sector-based career centers. As of November last year, the Workforce1 Career Centers made 20,620 job placements to be exact, with 5,362 placements in the Bronx; 3,557 placements in Brooklyn; 3,203 placements in Manhattan; 6,669 placements in Queens; and 1,829 placements in Staten Island. Centers have connected job seekers to positions in fields such as healthcare, retail, accommodation and food services, transportation and warehousing, and educational services, among others.

Unlike other workforces in the nation, New York City's Department of Small Business Services (SBS) works directly with businesses to identify employment opportunities and link the best candidates to those jobs. Understanding the needs of the businesses in our communities and our direct relationship with job seekers are the reasons we have reached this record number of job placements.

Since the beginning of 2009, Small Business Services, through the Workforce1 Career Centers and NYC Business Solutions centers, has worked with more than 4,000 New York businesses to recruit candidates for their openings. In the Bronx, SBS supported The Home Depot in opening a new store helping the company hire over 90 new employees, and it helped TGI Fridays hire 60 new employees for its new location. Other companies that have been assisted in the hiring process include Montefiore Medical Hospital, Workman Trading Corp., a bicycle manufacturing company, Saramax Apparel Group, a clothing manufacturer, and many others.

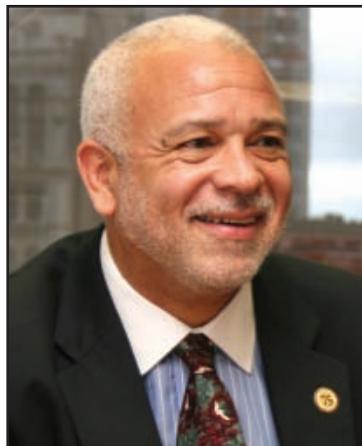
Last fall, the City opened its second sector-based center, the Workforce1 Healthcare Career Center in Queens, to connect New Yorkers to advanced training and employment opportunities in a growing field. The sector approach focuses on growth sectors and leads to higher wages for workers and better outcomes for businesses. In June 2008, The Mayor's Center for Economic Opportunity worked with SBS to launch its first sector-based career center, the Workforce1 Transportation Career Center in Queens. As of the writing of this column, the center has placed customers in over 1,500 jobs. In December the City continued to scale up this successful approach, opening a third sector-based center in Brooklyn that focuses on placing New Yorkers in jobs in the manufacturing industry.

Nearly 47% of New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) households receive income from employment—that's 82,276 households. NYCHA is always working through its Department of Resident Employment Services (RES) to maximize job opportunities for residents. In fact, some RES staff work directly out of the Brooklyn, Bronx and Staten Island Workforce 1 Career Centers. RES placed a total of 552 residents in jobs as of November last year.

City government can't end the national recession, but these job placements show we can make a real difference for individuals and families. Let's all look forward to even more job placements in 2010!

Michael R. Bloomberg

MEET NYCHA'S NEW GENERAL MANAGER MICHAEL KELLY



THE NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY'S (NYCHA) GENERAL MANAGER, MICHAEL P. KELLY, RECENTLY TOOK THE TIME TO MEET WITH BULLETIN EDITOR HOWARD SILVER AND MYSELF. Mr. Kelly joined NYCHA in October from the District of Columbia Housing Authority (DCHA) where he had served as Executive Director for the last ten years. Kelly has a 26-year history of experience in public housing having served previously as Executive Director of the San Francisco and New Orleans Housing Authorities. Mr. Kelly has received numerous awards and recognitions including the Green Build Champion for a Sustainable Future (2007); Affordable Housing Award for Innovation (2005); and the Public Housing Executive of the Year (2002), among others. Kelly received a Master's Degree in Education from San Francisco State University and a Master's in Architecture from the University of California, Berkeley. He received a Bachelor's Degree in Architecture and Urban Planning from Princeton University. He teaches Urban Neighborhoods and Sustainability at Howard University and is a United States Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Associate. Here's what he had to say:

Q: You've been NYCHA's General Manager for three months. What are some of your initial impressions of NYCHA?

A: I only knew NYCHA by its reputation as being one of the best run, as well as the largest housing authority in North America. Since my appointment, I have spent time meeting with both residents and staff at the developments and at NYCHA's various offices. I have been most impressed with the fierce dedication and the collective commitment that all have shown to maintaining and preserving public housing. What has also struck me are the investments made by the Authority in both people and in the buildings with an eye towards the future, modernization efforts, the green agenda and the wide array of social, educational and vocational

training opportunities and community programming designed to improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods. I also appreciate the interest and involvement, as well as the guidance provided by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg in our various initiatives, particularly our efforts to preserve affordable housing in New York.

Q: Do your impressions differ from any preconceptions you may have had?

A: It's common knowledge that NYCHA is the largest housing authority in North America. However, I did not come to fully appreciate the size and historical scope of NYCHA until I joined the Authority. NYCHA provides a home and foundation to nearly 650,000 New Yorkers through its conventional public housing and the Section 8 program. If NYCHA were a city unto itself, it would be the nation's 18th largest city. But perhaps more importantly, while meeting the housing needs of so many, great history is made here, in large part by the residents themselves. The list of accomplished Americans—whether they are leaders in politics, business, artists and celebrities or a Supreme Court Justice—who were raised in NYCHA is astounding. Programs established years ago, were the forerunners for many critical initiatives. For example, the gardening program that began 47 years ago had 3,000 participants this year active in educational workshops and in planting flowers and vegetables, as well as in a wide array of forward-thinking Green Agenda

initiatives under the imaginative leadership of Commissioner Margarita López.

Q: What do you believe is NYCHA's biggest challenge at the moment?

A: NYCHA's biggest challenge is three-fold: First, managing the large structural deficit in the operating budget. We have made significant progress in addressing the structural deficit through a series of cost cutting and revenue generating initiatives. NYCHA's projected deficit for 2009 was reduced from \$198 million to \$45 million. However, NYCHA still faces a deficit in fiscal year 2010. To achieve fiscal stability, we are exploring new measures to further reduce costs, generate revenue, and bring in needed resources to NYCHA. Second, we have a very aggressive capital program. NYCHA received funding from the federal stimulus program and we are using that money and our capital fund to fix our elevators,

(Continued on page 11)



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CHAIR'S MESSAGE

**The Public Housing Modernization Plan
—A Working Solution to NYCHA's
Structural Budget Deficit**



PASSAGE OF THE AMERICAN REINVESTMENT AND RECOVERY ACT (ARRA) BY CONGRESS LAST FEBRUARY HAS PROVIDED THE NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY (NYCHA) WITH AN UNPRECEDENTED, ONE-TIME OPPORTUNITY TO QUALIFY UNITS IN THE 21 STATE- AND CITY-BUILT DEVELOPMENTS WHICH RECEIVE NO SUBSIDY FROM ANY SOURCE, TO RECEIVE ANNUAL FEDERAL OPERATING AND CAPITAL SUBSIDIES. In other words,

for the first time, NYCHA will receive federal money to repair, renovate and maintain these developments on a daily basis. This is the transaction that we have been referring to as federalization of these developments.

The cost of operations alone at these developments—\$90 million a year—accounts for almost two-thirds of NYCHA's annual structural budget deficit of \$150 million. We refer to it as a structural deficit because until there is a dedicated funding source for these 21,000 units, their operating costs will continue to be a drain on the money that NYCHA receives from the Federal government for the 315 federally funded developments in our portfolio.

To meet our goal of federalizing these 21 City and State developments, NYCHA will ground lease the land and will contribute the buildings to a partnership comprised of a financial partner, a NYCHA wholly-owned affiliate and a non-profit member. The financing for this transfer will be a mix of public and private funds. The City's Department of Housing Preservation and Development and the Housing Development Corporation are partnering with NYCHA to help provide the private financing. The financial partners will receive tax credits as a result of this transaction and NYCHA will continue to manage the property for the duration of the minimum 15-year tax credit period. The units will remain public housing, subject to all HUD regulations and tenant protections, just like all other federal public housing units. Tenants who reside in the developments with Section 8 vouchers will continue to receive rental assistance under that program. At the end of the minimum 15-year period, NYCHA will have the right to reacquire the buildings.

Let me emphasize how important it is for all of us that this transaction succeed. Without this federalization initiative, the deficit caused by the lack of subsidy for these developments will threaten NYCHA's ability to sufficiently maintain its total portfolio of public housing developments moving forward.

This is an incredible opportunity for all of us, providing at last, a long-term solution to most of NYCHA's structural budget deficit. Let me be clear, NYCHA is not selling public housing. In fact, this initiative is a clear demonstration of our commitment to preserve public housing.

If you live in one of the buildings affected, you will see some modernization improvements, but otherwise there will be no obvious, outward indication that anything has changed. NYCHA will invest more than \$200 million over the next two years modernizing these buildings as a result of this plan. You will have the assurance of knowing that your unit will be preserved as affordable public housing with all the tenancy rights, protections and services enjoyed by all other federal public housing residents. You will be subject to the same rent schedules, income requirements and deductions, occupancy rules, lease restrictions, admission and transfer policies, house rules and regulations and grievance procedures as all public housing residents.

The new funding for these developments will result in improvements in building standards and conditions as well as service enhancements over the long term.

It is important to note that there are many hurdles to overcome to turn this proposal into a reality but NYCHA is aggressively pursuing this important solution to a long-standing challenge. If we are successful, this initiative will truly be historical. It will be the first time a mixed finance deal has been crafted to preserve instead of replace public housing. I'd like to express my heartfelt thanks to Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and all of the residents, elected officials and other stakeholders who have shown their support.

John B. Rhea

**Registration
Period for 40-lb
Dogs of all Breeds
Extended Through
January 2010**

On November 1, 2009, the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) sent a letter out to all residents extending the registration deadline under its old Pet Policy. With the extension, residents now have until January 31, 2010 to register dogs that comply with the previous pet policy and weight restriction, weighing up to 40 pounds regardless of breed. Service animals are exempt from any weight restriction but must still be registered.



**To Register Your Dog,
Cat or Service Animal**

—Submit a registration form to your Management Office within 30 days of obtaining the animal.

—Pay a one-time NYCHA registration fee of \$25.00 if applicable.

—After submitting the registration form, residents have an additional 90 days from the date of registration to:

—Submit a veterinarian certification showing that the dog or cat was examined;

—Provide proof that the dog or cat was (1) vaccinated against rabies, and (2) has been spayed or neutered. Call 1 (877) SPAY-NYC to find out about the ASPCA Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic or log on to www.aspc.org/pet owners.

—Provide proof that the dog is licensed by the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. To obtain an original or renewal dog license application, call 3-1-1 or log onto www.nyc.gov/doh.

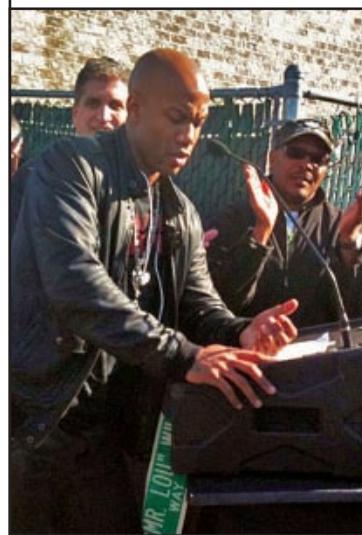
To report any dangerous or illegal animal on NYCHA property, call 3-1-1, 24-hours a day. If there is an immediate threat involving a dangerous or illegal animal, call 9-1-1 and advise your Housing Manager. If you have questions concerning NYCHA's pet policy, please visit or contact your Management Office.

DEBORAH'S DIARY

By Deborah Williams



Honoring A Neighborhood Legend—If you live in the Coney Island neighborhood of Brooklyn and have or have had aspirations of one day playing basketball with the NBA, then you probably knew Robert Williams or I should say “Mr. Lou.” Mr. Lou was a resident of O'Dwyer Houses for 40 years and during those years he was a mentor to the youth of Coney Island and was everyone's favorite basketball coach. His highest success as a coach came with the coaching and grooming of the Marbury brothers before and during their attendance at Lincoln High School. However, his ultimate achievement came when Stephon Marbury was drafted into the NBA in 1996. That's what made Mr. Lou Coney Island's very own legend—his kindness and willingness to assist the youth in the community and the fact that he offered his friendship to all. No wonder the community is still deeply saddened over the loss of Robert Williams in 2008.



Stephon Marbury

But the community found a way to honor its legend. On November 7th, friends, family, Lincoln High School Basketball Coach Dwayne “Tiny” Morton, celebrity guests such as: filmmaker Spike Lee, basketball star Stephon Marbury and other guests, including New York City Council Member Domenic Recchia, Jr. and Borough President Marty Markowitz gathered together at Mermaid Avenue and West 33rd Street, to rename the corner “Robert ‘Mr. Lou’ Williams Way.” Every time someone looks up at the street sign they will know that Mr. Lou was loved and cherished in the Coney Island community and

that he is truly missed. His son Robert Williams, Jr. said, “I am humbled today and very grateful for the tribute you have bestowed on my father. He was and will always be our Champion.” *It's always a good thing to hear how folks come together to recognize truly amazing people. Way to go!*

Spreading the Christmas Spirit—Laura and Michael Cromwell (below) truly know what it means to possess the Christmas spirit. For the past 26 years they have been residents of International Tower in Queens and throughout those years they have been spreading the joy of Christmas by decorating the hallways and lobby of 90-20 170th Street, and they decorate the building exterior from the parking lot to 90th Street as well. “We buy all the decorations ourselves and we do this because we hold Christmas close to our hearts. I remember how my parents loved to decorate so I guess I decorate my development to honor my parents' memory.” Ms. Cromwell is also the Tenant Patrol Supervisor and has been sitting tenant patrol in the lobby of 90-20 170th Street for the past 25 years. *Thanks for spreading a little Christmas cheer to the residents of 90-20 170th Street. Christmas is such a wonderful time of the year and your caring deed honors and reinforces the meaning behind the holiday!*



Laura and Michael Cromwell

THE NYCHA NOT WANTED LIST

In this issue we continue publishing the names of individuals who have been permanently excluded from our public housing developments. The purpose of this list is to keep residents informed of the Housing Authority's ongoing efforts to improve the quality of life for all New Yorkers in public housing and to allow for the peaceful and safe use of our facilities. What follows is a partial list of the people excluded after hearings were held on July 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2009. For a full list of the "Not Wanted" visit NYCHA's website at nyc.gov/residentscorner. **Please note: These exclusions are based on NYCHA's Administrative Hearing Process and should not be confused with the Trespass Notice Program under Mayor Bloomberg's Operation Safe Housing Initiative.**

**REMEMBER,
IF YOU SEE ANY OF THESE INDIVIDUALS ON
HOUSING AUTHORITY PROPERTY, PLEASE CALL
YOUR MANAGEMENT OFFICE OR NYCHA'S
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT AT (212) 306-8595.**

Prohibited as of July 1, 2009

Justin Flake	Case 4477/09 formerly associated with the eighth floor of 38-08 Beach Channel Drive, Beach 41st Street Houses, Far Rockaway.
Tyreek Flake	
Derris Presley	Case 4458/09 formerly associated with the sixth floor of 1008 St. Marks Avenue, Albany Houses, Brooklyn.
William Dawson	Case 4556/09 formerly associated with the second floor of 2595 Third Avenue, Patterson Houses, the Bronx.
Alberto Roldan	Case 4552/09 formerly associated with the first floor of 691 F.D.R. Drive, Wald Houses, Manhattan.
Lorenzo Jackson	Case 4431/09 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 140 Moore Street, Bushwick/Hylan Houses, Brooklyn.
Dayshawn Jennings	
Kithe Jennings	
Andrew Coleman	Case 4453/09 formerly associated with the first floor of 41-01 12th Street, Queensbridge South Houses, Queens.
Christopher Ortiz	Case 3309/09 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 372 Blake Avenue, Van Dyke Houses, Brooklyn.

Prohibited as of July 8, 2009

Kareem Carter	Case 4554/09 formerly associated with the seventh floor of 1770 Story Avenue, Monroe Houses, the Bronx.
James White	Case 4553/09 formerly associated with the fourth floor of 2007 Surf Avenue, Carey Gardens Houses, Brooklyn.
Elliott Diaz	Case 8826/09 formerly associated with the fourteenth floor of 1191 Park Place, Albany Houses, Brooklyn.
Devell Hogue	Case 4607/09 formerly associated with the sixth floor of 1458 Webster Avenue, Butler Houses, the Bronx.
Jason Burgos	Case 3854/09 formerly associated with the second floor of 2715 Third Avenue, Patterson Houses, the Bronx.
Richard Cruz	
Armando Sanchez	
Kyle Goodwine	Case 8416/07 formerly associated with the seventh floor of 535 Havemeyer Avenue, Castle Hill Houses, the Bronx.

Prohibited as of July 15, 2009

Barry Parks, Jr.	Case 4770/09 formerly associated with the tenth floor of 1390 Fifth Avenue, King Towers Houses, Manhattan.
Curtis Cruell	Case 4919/09 formerly associated with the third floor of 180 Palmetto Street, Hope Gardens, Brooklyn.
Zaquan Quimberly	
Jonathan Medina	Case 4765/09 formerly associated with the first floor of 3603 Third Avenue, Morris Houses, the Bronx.
Alex Martinez	Case 4758/09 formerly associated with the twelfth floor of 350 East 143rd Street, Mott Haven Houses, the Bronx.
Brandon Lee	Case 3695/09 formerly associated with the fifth floor of 2430 7th Avenue, Drew Hamilton Houses, Manhattan.

Prohibited as of July 22, 2009

Tafford Brown	Case 4866/09 formerly associated with the sixth floor of 54-09 Alameda Avenue, Ocean Bay Apartments, Far Rockaway.
Anthony Best	Case 3472/09 formerly associated with the fourth floor of 121 Nostrand Avenue, Marcy Houses, Brooklyn.
Pedro Alvarez	Case 3382/09 formerly associated with the third floor of 725 F.D.R. Drive, Wald Houses, Manhattan.

GREAT TURNOUT FOR B'KLYN JOB FAIR



EMPOWERMENT Shown in the photo above, from left to right, are: Wyckoff Gardens Resident Association President Charlene Nimmons, Assembly Member Hakeem Jeffries, NYCHA Vice-Chair Earl Andrews, Jr., Resident Employment Services Director Sonia Torruella, REES Senior Advisor Michelle Pinnock, Department of Community Operations Deputy General Manager Hugh Spence (behind Ms. Pinnock), Ingersoll Houses Resident Association President Edward Brown, Assembly Member Joseph Lentol and City Council Member Leticia James. The photo at right shows: NYCHA Chair John B. Rhea and Gowanus Houses' resident Shatavia Green. Ms. Green is a 2009 NYCHA resident scholarship recipient who is currently enrolled in City College.



By Eileen Elliott

TO MAKE SURE THAT NEW JOBS GENERATED BY THE BUILDING BOOM IN DOWNTOWN BROOKLYN ARE FILLED BY NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY (NYCHA) RESIDENTS, NYCHA, THE DOWNTOWN BROOKLYN PARTNERSHIP AND A NUMBER OF CO-SPONSORS HOSTED THE REVITALIZING DOWNTOWN BROOKLYN JOB FAIR 2009 AT THE NEWLY OPENED RAYMOND V. INGERSOLL COMMUNITY CENTER IN FORT GREENE ON THE EVENING OF NOVEMBER 12TH.

More than 330 residents attended to meet with 58 vendors whose tables lined the gymnasium floor. They included construction companies and other contractors interested in Section 3 hiring, government entities such as the U.S. Census Bureau (and NYCHA), educational and health institutions such as the City College of New York and Brooklyn Hospital Center, and stores like Duane Reade and Macy's.

In her role as Mistress of Ceremonies, Senior Advisor Michelle Pinnock from NYCHA's recently created Office of Resident Economic Empowerment and Sustainability (REES), thanked everyone involved saying the event would not have been possible without the help of the many partners present. They included Assembly Member Hakeem Jeffries, City Council Member Leticia James, Downtown Brooklyn Partnership Project Manager Doug Guiliano, Economic Development Corporation Chief Operating Officer Tokumbo Shobowale, the nonprofit Public Housing Communities, Inc. (established and operated by Wyckoff Gardens Resident Association President Charlene Nimmons) and Ingersoll Houses Resident Association President Edward Brown.

Senator Velmanette Montgomery arrived later in the evening as did NYCHA Chair John B. Rhea.

Council Member James cited the "unofficial unemployment rate" for a number of NYCHA developments in her districts as "four times that" of Brooklyn's overall unemployment of 11%, which was announced by the State Department of Labor earlier in the week. "Today is a symbol of hope and inspiration," she told the crowd. "Get jobs to support your families and sustain your futures."

Job seekers at the Fair had nothing but good things to say about NYCHA's Department of Resident Employment Services (RES), a division of REES, which did extensive outreach that included the distribution of 7,000 flyers by development staff and mailing 1,000 letters to job seekers in other boroughs. RES also conducted a pre-Fair workshops focusing on resumé preparation and interview techniques.

"I'm a RES success story," said 23-year-old Jwana Trisvan of Red Hook I Houses. "Within six months of coming to RES, I got my GED and I got employment and enrolled in college." Ms. Trisvan, who has a six-year-old son, had recently left her job as a security guard at the RES office on Livingston Street in downtown Brooklyn. She attends Brooklyn Technical College.

Forty-three year-old James Archer, a resident of Marlboro Houses for 35 years, heard about the Fair through outreach done by Wyckoff Resident Association President Charlene Nimmons. Mr. Archer worked as a laborer off-and-on through NYCHA's Section 3 program and was looking for similar work with STV Construction as well as other construction companies at the Fair.

"RES is a good program," he said with a smile, "but you have to use it." With regard to the Fair, he commented, "I'm going to put my line out and see what I can get."

Yolanda Castillo, 48-years-old, and a resident of Hope Gardens in Bushwick, graduated from New Rochelle College with a Bachelor of Arts in psychology, after she lost her long-time job with the Brooklyn Bureau of Community Service. At the Fair she interviewed with Geneva Worldwide Interpreting and Translation. "They said I could start work tomorrow!" she reported.

"These communities have seen some hard times," said Assembly Member Jeffries, referring to NYCHA's Whitman, Ingersoll, and Farragut Houses and Atlantic Terminal. "Now that we see all the prosperity, we must leave no person behind."

THREE NYCHA OFFICES TO RELOCATE

In order to improve delivery of service to our Applicants and Section 8 customers, NYCHA will be implementing major technological enhancements in phases throughout 2010, and is establishing three regional Customer Contact Centers (CCCs) in the Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens. The new CCCs will serve our Applicants and Section 8 customers who have appointments and those who choose to visit. Our new telephone and online options will eliminate the need for many office visits, thereby reducing wait times. Once the implementation is complete, Applicants and Section 8 customers throughout the City will be able to: use any CCC regardless of what borough they live in or want to live in; and access dedicated Customer Service Representatives by phone who will respond to informational inquiries.

Please review the flyer below to see if you can take care of business by logging onto NYCHA's website at www.nyc.gov/nychamoves; or by calling the Customer Contact Center at 718-707-7771 from 8AM to 5PM Monday through Friday. Otherwise, visit our new offices as follows:

Starting January 12th, the new Brooklyn Customer Contact Center at 787 Atlantic Avenue, 2nd Floor, will provide services to all Brooklyn and Staten Island Application and Section 8 Customers. The Brooklyn Resident Employment Services office will also be relocated to the 2nd Floor

of 787 Atlantic Avenue, Brooklyn, starting January 12th and continue to provide employment and training services to public housing residents from all boroughs.

Starting January 26, the new Bronx Customer Contact Center at 478 East Fordham Road, will provide services to all Applications and Section 8 customers living in Manhattan and the Bronx. Handicap access will be available at One Fordham Plaza – the main building entrance.

Starting January 26th, Applicants living in Queens will receive services at 59-17 Junction Boulevard, Queens. This office will share office space with the Queens Section 8 office currently operating in this location, and in May 2010, the office will move to a new location at 90-27 Sutphin Boulevard, 4th Floor.

During the period around the move, NYCHA's ability to conduct routine services will be limited. Additionally, we regret any inconvenience to our customers during this transition period, and thank everyone for their patience as we continue to work towards an improved experience for everyone who uses our services.



NEW YORK CITY
HOUSING AUTHORITY

WE'RE MOVING

...to serve you better!

**Don't wait in line,
Get Online!**

1

**Can't get online?
Make a call.**

2

**Have an Appointment?
Visit Our Offices.**

3

At the New York City Housing Authority we are working hard to serve you better. Over the next year we will be making major improvements to customer services city wide through NICE (NYCHA Improving the Customer Experience).

We're starting small by opening new offices beginning in January, 2010. And throughout the year we will be enhancing our online and phone capabilities. All this will make doing business with NYCHA as easy as **1-2-3**.

We apologize in advance for any inconvenience during this transitional period and we look forward to serving you better.






From the convenience of home, your local library or wherever you can get online, go to:

www.nyc.gov/nychamoves

For quick and easy access to:

- directions to our new offices
- access to printable applications and Section 8 forms
- general information

Speak directly to one of our Customer Contact Center representatives to:

- check your application status
- schedule appointments
- get information
- request forms



Effective January 12th, 2010:
Call 718-707-7771
8 AM - 5 PM Monday-Friday

When you have an appointment visit our enhanced facilities for:

- in person briefings
- eligibility interviews
- submission of rental packages



Bronx & Manhattan Residents
478 East Fordham Rd.
(1 Fordham Plaza)
Bronx, NY 10458
(as of 01/26/10)

Queens Residents
59-17 Junction Blvd.
Queens, NY 11368
(as of 01/26/10)

Brooklyn & Staten Island Residents
787 Atlantic Ave.
Brooklyn, NY 11238
(as of 01/12/10)

For info visit our website:
www.nyc.gov/nychamoves
or Call: 718-707-7771

AT THE NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY
WE'RE MOVING TO SERVE YOU BETTER

A translation of this document is on the website below.
La traducción de este documento está en el sitio web más abajo.
文件譯本可從以下網址索取
Перевод этого документа находится на вебсайте ниже:
www.nyc.gov/nychamoves

GET CONNECTED...SO THAT WE CAN CONTACT YOU QUICKLY

As part of a new Customer Service initiative, NYCHA is asking residents for the e-mail addresses and cell phone numbers of all Heads of Household. This will allow us to provide you with fast, up-to-date information on everything from building emergencies to maintenance repairs and upcoming community events and programs. Please visit our website at www.nyc.gov/nycha to share/update this information. For security reasons, you will need to enter your Tenant ID. Or, you can provide the information to the CCC by calling (718) 707-7771, or to a maintenance worker the next time one stops by. The information we collect will be used for communications purposes only and will not be shared with a third party without your consent.

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Diabetes
Cholesterol
Preventive Medicine
Immunizations
Nutrition
Women's Health

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

DENTAL SERVICES

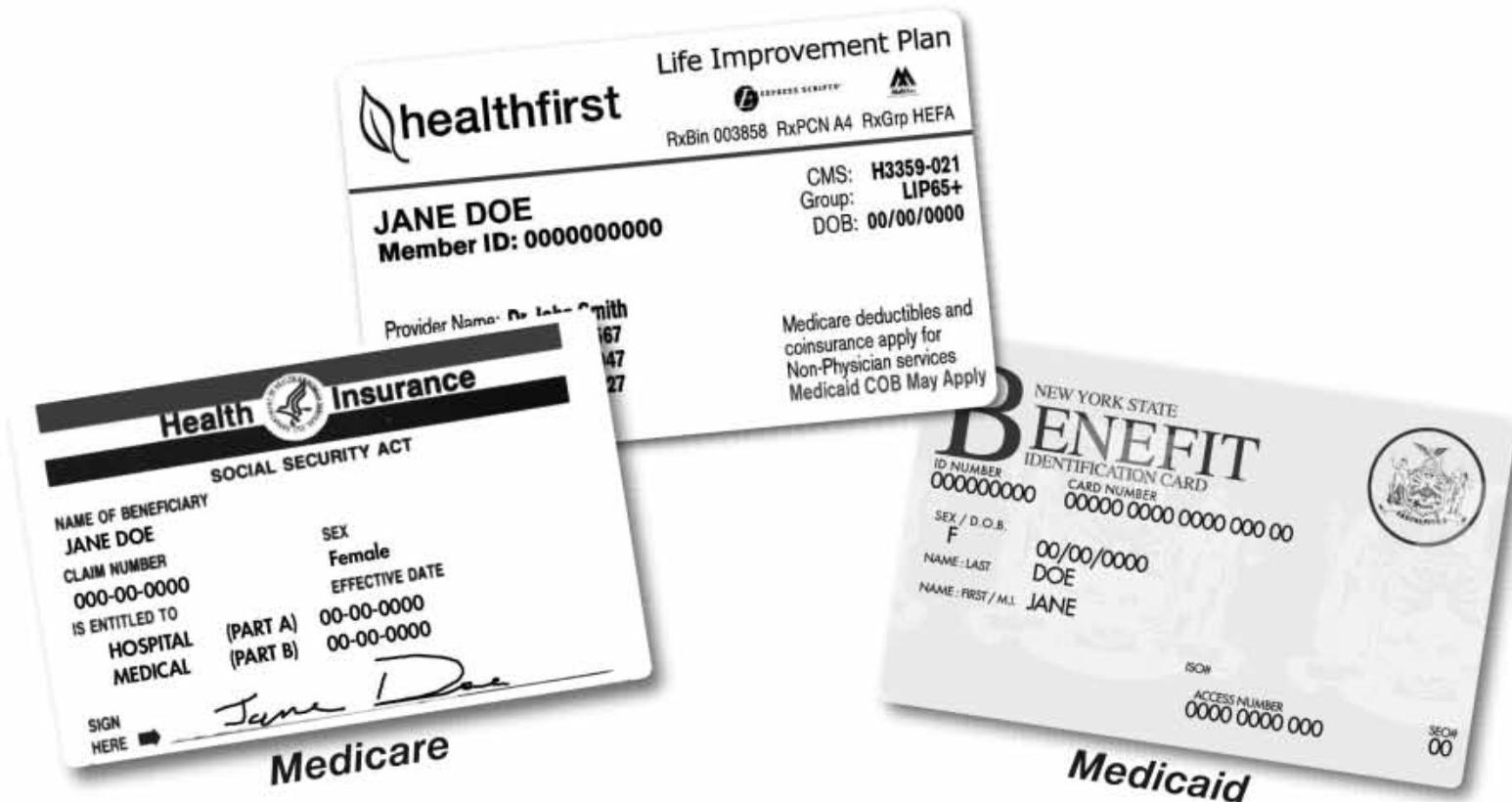
Dental Examination
Prophylaxis
Restorations
X-Rays



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www.vcny.org

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If you have Medicare and Medicaid, Healthfirst offers you one of the most comprehensive healthcare plans in New York

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- Up to \$600 per year (\$50 per month) for non-prescription drugs and health related over-the-counter items
- \$0 for ALL covered dental services
- FREE car service to and from your doctor up to 16 times per year (4 per quarter)
- \$0 copayment for primary care visits
- \$0 copayment for specialist visits
- No referrals required
- Up to \$500 for hearing aids every three years
- Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage (Part D)



we put your health first

Find out more about Healthfirst Medicare Plan for 2009, call:

1-877-237-1303 | TTY 1-800-662-1220
(for the hearing or speech impaired)

Monday through Friday, 8:00AM – 6:00PM

www.healthfirstny.com

Healthfirst Medicare Plan is a health maintenance organization that has a Medicare Advantage contract with the Federal government and is available in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, Staten Island, Westchester and Nassau. Not all plans available in all counties.



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Bills Paid

PrePaid Sold



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- NYCHA Payments Accepted
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- Prepaid Debit Cards and Phone Cards
- Western Union Wire Transfers & Money Orders
- Postage Stamps & Envelopes
- Lotto • ATM • MetroCards
- E-ZPass **NEW!**



PAY-O-MATIC now has the most 24 hour locations throughout the New York Metro Area!
Regular Hours: M-W 8:30-6, Thurs & Fri: 8:30-7, Sat: 8:30-6
Open Sunday - Call for hours

YOU CAN PAY YOUR RENT AT ANY OF THESE NYCHA APPROVED LOCATIONS:

BROOKLYN
168 GREENPOINT AVE*
286 BRIGHTON BEACH*
1294 FULTON STREET*
1441 ST JOHNS PLACE*
1640 BROADWAY*
2323 MERMAID AVE*
2488 LINDEN BLVD*
5215 FOURTH AVE*
1813 KINGS HIGHWAY*
254 LIVONIA AVE*
106B NASSAU AVE
151 VANDERBILT AVE
187 BEDFORD AVE
2107 BATH AVE
508 CLARKSON AVE
531 EASTERN PKWY
642 NOSTRAND AVE
364 GRAHAM AVE
1075 BROADWAY
1588 FULTON STREET
160 ROCKAWAY AVE
593 MYRTLE AVE
254 KINGSTON AVE
451 BROADWAY
553 GRAND ST
687 STANLEY AVE
706 RALPH AVE
5805 FOURTH AVE
1638 CONEY ISLAND AVE
653 CLASSON AVE
832 WASHINGTON AVE

840 FRANKLIN AVE
1083 MANHATTAN AVE
BRONX
11 EAST GUNHILL RD*
159 EAST 170TH ST*
2356 GRAND CONCOURSE*
271 EAST 149TH ST*
350 DEVOE AVE*
797 SOUTHERN BLVD*
1908 CROSS BX EXPWY*
2187 WHITE PLAINS RD*
81 WEST FORDHAM RD*
686 NEREID AVE*
1245 SOUTHERN BLVD
1283 WESTCHESTER AVE
25 WEST 170 TH STREET
120 FEATHERBED LN
396 EAST 167TH STREET
664 EAST TREMONT AVE
697 EAST GUNHILL RD
931 EAST 174TH STREET
977 PROSPECT AVE
1030 MORRIS AVE
1204 ELDER AVE
1784 WESTCHESTER AVE
2441 JEROME AVE
3212 THIRD AVE
4551 THIRD AVE
3725 E TREMONT AVE
3429 E TREMONT AVE
164 EAST 174TH STREET
269 EAST TREMONT AVE

890 EAST TREMONT AVE
1202 MORRISON AVE
2193 GRAND CONCOURSE
4215 THIRD AVE
MANHATTAN
94 EIGHTH AVE*
590 EIGHTH AVE*
763 NINTH AVE*
926 COLUMBUS AVE*
3352 BROADWAY*
514 WEST 207TH ST*
50 SPRING STREET
551 COLUMBUS AVE
4984 BROADWAY
2351 SECOND AVE
3433 BROADWAY
3657 BROADWAY
200 WEST 14TH STREET
224 EIGHTH AVE
295 CHURCH STREET
2168 SECOND AVE
QUEENS
56-54 MYRTLE AVE*
37-74 90TH STREET*
102-10 ROOSEVELT AVE*
46-18 QUEENS BLVD*
30-14 31ST ST
39-28 QUEENS BLVD
30-08 BROADWAY
40-35 21ST ST
58-14 ROOSEVELT AVE
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CCM PACE has an approved contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and NY State. Additional benefits and restrictions may apply. Members are liable for the cost of services not authorized by CCM program.

CUNY'S 2009 ALL-STAR TEAM TAKES THE FIELD!



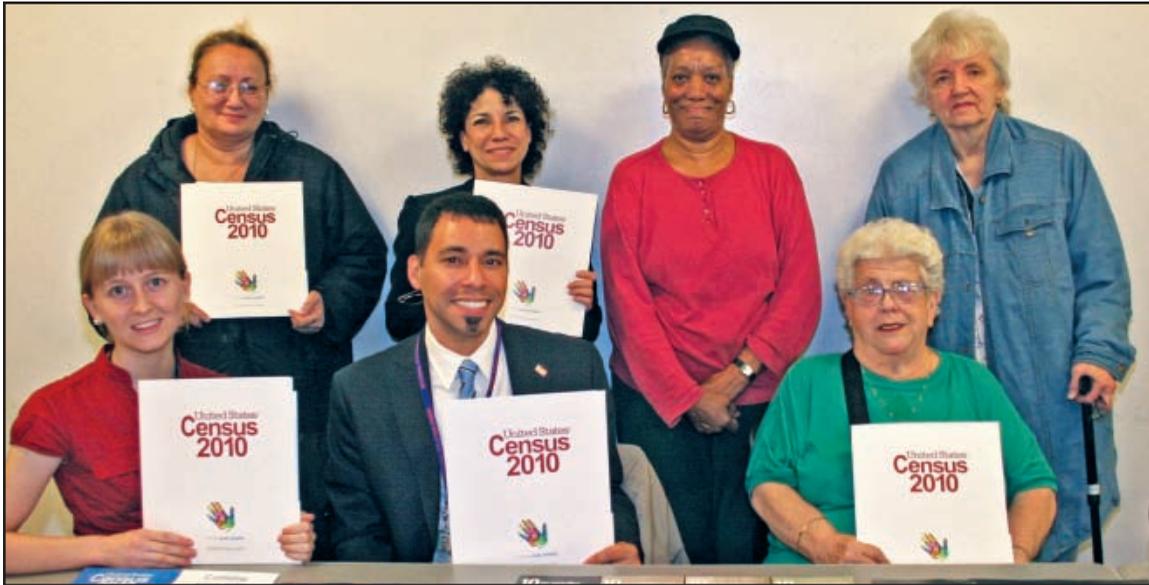
"CUNY students continue to win the nation's most prestigious awards, 'coached' by our world-class faculty."
— Matthew Goldstein, Chancellor

November is CUNY Month!
Visit cuny.edu/CUNYmonth

View the full team roster at
www.cuny.edu/allstars



United States Census 2010



Representatives from NYC Census 2010 and the U.S. Census Bureau met with residents of Chelsea Elliott Houses at the monthly Resident Association Meeting held on November 19th at the Hudson - Guild's John Lovejoy Elliott Center in Manhattan, to emphasize the importance of participation in the U.S. Census 2010. **Shown in the photo above, front row, left to right, are: U.S. Census Bureau representatives Becca Palmer and Ben Suazo and Chelsea Elliott resident Betty Carrall. Back row, left to right are: NYCHA resident, Deputy City Census Coordinator Carmen Matias and Chelsea-Elliott residents Florence Dent-Hunter and Peggy Toole.** The U.S. Constitution mandates that every person, regardless of legal status, residing in the U.S. and its territories be counted every ten years. The Census is used for determining the number of seats New York State and City get in Congress and the State legislature, as well as the size of each of the City's 51 Council Districts. It is also used in determining the amount of federal funding the City receives for critical services such as education, health care, jobs and transportation. The Census forms will be mailed to each household in mid-March. Remember, you count, so please fill out the form and mail it in. **It's quick, it's easy and it's confidential.** See the advertisement below for more information.

We can help you find **CHILD CARE!**

Call us at (212) 206-8043

Our professionally trained staff can provide **FREE** information on:

- Infant/Toddler Programs
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- After-school Programs
- Summer Camps
- Child Care Centers
- Licensed Family & Group Family Child Care

We are bilingual in English and Spanish!



The Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, Inc.

Would you like to be a licensed child care provider?

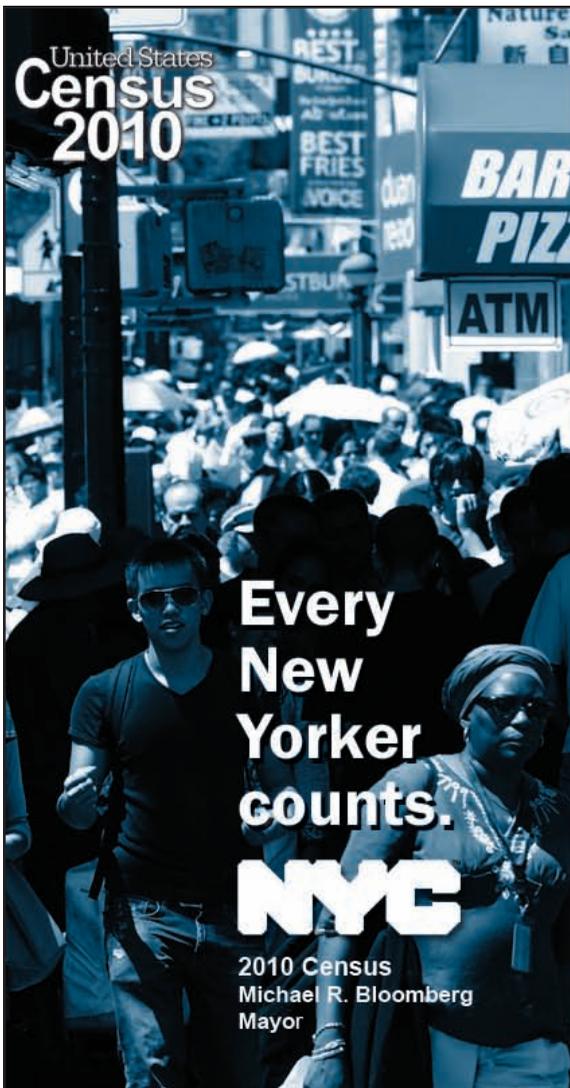
We offer the trainings you need and can help you every step of the way.

110 William Street, Suite 1802, New York, NY 10038
T: 212-206-1090 F: 212-206-8093 www.chcfn.org

Call us at (212) 206-8043 for more information.



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NON-EMERGENCY
CITY SERVICES**



United States
**Census
2010**

**Every
New
Yorker
counts.**

NYC

2010 Census
Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor

Your neighborhood.

Your resources.

Your voice.

**Participation in the
2010 Census means
representation.**

**A census form will be mailed to
you in March 2010. Fill it out
with information about every
person who lives with you and
mail it back immediately!**

For more information, visit nyc.gov or call 311.

The census is a count of every individual in the United States, regardless of status. It happens every 10 years. If everyone fills out a census form, your community will have more power in Washington, D.C. and New York will get more money for important services, such as:

**EDUCATION JOB TRAINING
HEALTH CARE TRANSPORTATION**

2010 CENSUS TIMELINE: KEY DATES

March 15, 2010 Census questionnaires are mailed or delivered to households.

April 15, 2010 Fill out and return questionnaires in the mail by this date; census takers will visit households that did not return a questionnaire by mail between May and June.

December 2010 Census Bureau delivers population counts to the President of the United States for congressional apportionment.

**JOIN MORE THAN 21,000
SUBSCRIBERS WHO RECEIVE THE
NYCHA JOURNAL ONLINE EACH MONTH
BY SIGNING UP AT WWW.NYC.GOV,
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NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY

Board Meeting Schedule

Notice is hereby given that the New York City Housing Authority's Board Meetings take place every other Wednesday at 10:00AM in the Board Room on the 12th floor of 250 Broadway, New York, New York (unless otherwise noted). The meetings for Calendar Year 2010 are as follows:

January 6, 2010	August 4, 2010
January 20, 2010	August 18, 2010
February 17, 2010	September 1, 2010
March 3, 2010	September 15, 2010
March 17, 2010	September 28, 2010 (Tuesday)
April 1, 2010 (Thursday)	October 13, 2010
April 14, 2010	October 27, 2010
April 28, 2010	November 10, 2010
May 12, 2010	November 24, 2010
May 26, 2010	December 8, 2010
June 9, 2010	December 22, 2010
June 23, 2010	
July 7, 2010	
July 21, 2010	

Any changes to the schedule above will be posted here and on NYCHA's Website at nyc.gov/nycha to the extent practicable at a reasonable time before the meeting.

These meetings are open to the public. Pre-registration of speakers is required. Those who wish to register must do so at least forty-five (45) minutes before the scheduled Board Meeting. Comments are limited to the items on the Agenda. Speakers will be heard in the order of registration. Speaking time will be limited to three (3) minutes. The public comment period will conclude upon all speakers being heard or at the expiration of thirty (30) minutes allotted by law for public comment, whichever occurs first.

Copies of the Agenda are available on NYCHA's Website or can be picked up at the Office of the Secretary at 250 Broadway, 12th floor, New York, New York, no earlier than 3:00PM on the Friday before the upcoming Wednesday Board Meeting. Copies of the Minutes are also available on NYCHA's Website or can be picked up at the Office of the Secretary no earlier than 3:00PM on the Thursday after the Board Meeting.

Any person requiring a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the Board Meeting, should contact the Office of the Secretary at (212) 306-6088 no later than five (5) business days before the Board Meeting.

For additional information, please visit NYCHA's Website or contact us at (212) 306-6088.

Get FREE Tax Help



There are free tax assistance centers throughout the city providing professional help with filing taxes.

Call 311 for the location of sites in your area.

Get MORE MONEY Back
Ask your tax preparer if you qualify for:

- Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)
- If you have kids and earn less than \$48,000 you could be eligible for a refund up to \$7,600
- Child Care Tax Credits (Federal, State, City)
- If you have a child 3 years or younger you could be eligible for a NYC refund up to \$1,733

Call 311 for more information on the EITC and NYC Child Care Tax Credits

Buying a home? Give us a call.

The State of New York Mortgage Agency (SONYMA) can help you become a first-time homebuyer. SONYMA mortgages offer:

- 30- or 40- year fixed interest rates that are typically below market;
- Financing up to 97%;
- Flexible underwriting guidelines;
- Closing cost assistance (up to higher of \$3,000 or 3% of the loan amount);
- No points;
- No financing add ons.

For more information, call
1-800-382-HOME (4663)
or visit www.nyhomes.org



MEET NYCHA'S NEW GENERAL MANAGER MICHAEL KELLY

repair buildings, replace or retrofit heating systems and decrease our dependence on energy. Lastly, there is the issue of resident employment. While NYCHA has done a good job of hiring residents to work at the Authority, we can do more to assist residents with education and training opportunities so that they can find employment in the private sector. I am looking forward to working with the new office of Resident Economic Empowerment and Sustainability established by Chairman Rhea that will lead those efforts.

Q: How do you think public housing will fare under the Obama administration?

A: President Obama has demonstrated a commitment to public housing. He campaigned on a promise to help public housing with funding for operations and capital spending. Among the first appointments he made on assuming the Presidency was to name New York's Housing Preservation and Development Commissioner as Secretary for the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Secretary Shaun Donovan knows firsthand the impact of affordable housing on residents and the surrounding communities here in New York. Public housing establishes stability for families, keeps people close to where they

work, and provides access to programs and resources that foster self-sufficiency. Secretary Donovan has joined the President in his commitment to reverse the trends of prior years and to fully fund the operating subsidies for public housing. However, they will need our support given that funding begins with the Congressional Appropriations Committees. It is important for all of us to support our Congressional Delegation as they fight for NYCHA to receive full funding in the Appropriations.

Q: Is there anything you would like to say about NYCHA's future?

A: NYCHA is the "mecca" of public housing and has a very special place in the fabric of New York City. There is a shared commitment to the preservation of public housing and expansion of affordable housing options. Undoubtedly, with the support of the Mayor, the NYCHA Board under the leadership of Chairman Rhea, the NYCHA team, and the residents our future is brighter than ever.

(Continued from page 2)