



The Renaissance Collaborative, Inc. 2010 Year-End Newsletter

Fall 2010

Message From Executive Director & Board Chair

The Board and staff of The Renaissance Collaborative, Inc. thank all of you for making it possible for us to continuously serve the community for ten years, by providing comprehensive supportive services at The Renaissance Apartments and Fitness for Life Center. We thank you for all your contributions and support. These past couple of years have been rough for all of us but especially for



those with few economic options. During these past years TRC started a Landscaping Venture, Bronzeville Green, that trains and employs community residents. Also, we have constructed and opened the first phase (Senior Village I) of our Senior Village Development. As employment opportunities are minimal TRC is working to develop a workforce development center and at the same time we



are developing Phase II of the Senior Village Development, Grand Family Housing. We hope you will join us as we continue our service to address the needs of the community we serve.

TRC's IMPACT

TRC's comprehensive supportive services have been of great benefit to our tenants. Our tenants attend financial literacy and business development workshops, to assist with their individual development goals. Through our Education & Employment initiatives, 12% of our residents have obtained their GED and or degrees. Health & Wellness programming plays a big part in our tenant's lives, as they utilize the adjacent Wabash YMCA Fitness for Life Center, to help stay physically fit, but the services also focus on individuals holistically (mind, body, and spirit). Overall, TRC thanks its tenants, staff, and supporters for making it possible for the organization to keep its doors open for ten years.

Using Education & Employment as an incentive for residents to participate in its comprehensive services at The Renaissance Apartments. Our tenants are working towards becoming self-sufficient and moving in the right directions. Our volunteer involvement has risen by 10%, closing out the year, with more volunteer's, mentors, and tutors helping as needed. The Senior Employment Program is at an 4% increase in participation, which is our biggest increase this year. Landscaping (Bronzeville Green) has also expanded and made more progress on training its participants in becoming a professional landscaping company, securing more substantial contracts. To sum it all up, 58% of are tenants are employed and 34% are enrolled in some type of education or training program. If you would like to contribute to our mission or have any questions about our organization please contact Felisha Powell at (773)924-9270 ext 21. Visit us on the web at www.trcwabash.org

2010 Board of Directors

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Taste of Renaissance

September 11, 2010 TRC celebrated the Annual Taste of Renaissance. This event celebrates the progress of all our tenants (past and present) of Renaissance Apartments. It also provides opportunity for our Alumni to support and encourage our current tenants.



Alumni have gone to obtain professional degrees, become homeowners, and live successful lives. This event also enables the Alumni to share their story. This year, there was a spoken-word/ poetry slam and stories of encouragement shared by our residents. Our Executive Director, Patricia Abrams was honored and presented with the TRC Appreciation Award of 2010.

Annual Fall Recognition Reception



TRC held its Annual Fall Recognition Reception of 2010 on September 30th 2010. The theme "Honoring Our Elders", was permanently realized in the opening of TRC Senior Village I. The Cornerstone award went to Dr. Margaret Burroughs, Joan Wood award went to Mr. Leroy Kennedy, and the Bridge builder award went Dr. Timuel Black, all are outstanding and dedicated community leaders and we thank them for all of their contributions. We will like to also thank everyone who supported and contributed to the event. We look forward to your contributions and support next year.

Thanksgiving, Christmas & Kwanzaa Celebrations

On November 20, and 22, 2010 TRC will host a Thanksgiving Feast for its residents. Thanksgiving is a day of thankfulness, gratitude, and appreciation. This is what TRC represents in its mission and day to day operations. The Christmas & Kwanzaa Celebration will be held on December 30th 2010. The celebration is an opportunity for residents to celebrate life and help others that are in need, by giving can goods, volunteering, or just helping others.



TRC Senior Village I, NFP Grand Opening

On October 28, 2010, TRC held the Grand Opening to the Senior Village I, and Health & Wellness Center. The first phase provides 70 units of supportive affordable housing for independent seniors. The apartments are 1-bedroom with walk-in closet, full kitchen, living room, full bath, and emergency call button. The Health & Wellness Center mission is to foster an empowering environment where seniors are active healthy participants in their own community, achieving full potential and maximizing their quality of life. Participation in the Health & Wellness Center is opened to all 55 years and older. Overall, the Grand Opening was a great success and we are still accepting applications, for more information please call Letrice Hall at (773)891-4143 ext. 25.



A Look Ahead 2011

The Renaissance Collaborative, Inc.

Date: 02/04/2011
Time: 9:00 am -12:00 pm
Tickets: \$10.00



Friend-Raiser

**In the early 1900's, the Wabash YMCA provided housing, job training, and served as a social center to many African-Americans who migrated from the south to find a better way of life, and assisted them in obtaining self-sufficiency.*

**Today, The Renaissance Collaborative, Inc. has mirrored these community services by promoting self-sufficiency through an innovative and comprehensive network of supportive housing, employment, educational services, and countless other programs.*

**Please join TRC at its' annual Friend-Raiser breakfast in a stimulating dialogue, using our past to inform our future toward "economic self-sufficiency".*



Address: 3763 S. Wabash
Chicago, IL 60653
Contact: Patricia Abrams
Executive Director
(773)824- 9270 ext. 24
Website: www.trcwabash.org

The Annual Friend-Raiser will be held on Friday, February 4, 2011 In the Grand Ball Room 3763 S. Wabash Chicago, IL 60653. Please come out and enjoy food, music, and a simulating dialogue. *Tickets are \$10.00 per person*, Please contact Felisha Powell at 773-924-9270 ext. 21 for more information

TRC is looking to began work on Senior Village II. Its grand families housing for seniors raising dependents, as it continues hosting Grand Family Support Groups



TRC's Annual Employment and Resource Fair will take place in the Spring of 2011 Stay Tuned for Date and Time



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TRC Staff

Patricia Abrams— Executive
Director

Tiffany Sledge— Chief Operations
Officer

Property Manager

Sherri Allen Reeves— Life Skills
Manager

Priscilla Foster— Health & Wellness
Manager

Walter Bush IV— Education &
Employment Manager

Felisha Powell— Administrative
Assistant

Brenda Rhodes— Administrative
Assistant (For Workforce
Development)

Ephelia Thomas—Leasing Clerk

Parthenya Sledge— Landscaping
Supervisor

Stanley Pittman— Maintenance
Engineer

Norma Bush- GED Adult Educator

Letrice Hall— Property Manager
(Senior Village I, NFP)

Sean Dolan- Service
Coordinator
(Senior Village I, NFP)

Donate to the TRC Mission

Our work is not possible without your support. Please consider making a year-end donation. TRC is a 501 (c)3 non-profit agency and contributions are tax deductible.



Donate online at www.trcwabash.org or you may also stop by the office:

Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m.— 5:30 p.m.

For more information on donation, please call
Felisha Powell at (773)924-9270 ext. 21.

www.trcwabash.org