



# the HOUSING HOMEFRONT

A publication of the St. Petersburg and Dunedin Housing Authorities



DUNEDIN HOUSING AUTHORITY

## Sale of Graham/Rogall Properties Moving Forward



*Rendering of Rogall building after renovation*

On May 14, 2010, the St. Petersburg Housing Authority (SPHA) and Urban Style Flats, LLC, lead by local developer Phil Farley, entered into a purchase and sale agreement for the Graham Park and Rogall Congregate properties for \$6.8 million. The 486-unit properties are located west of downtown St. Petersburg, adjacent to Tropicana Field.

Dr. Arnett Smith, chairman of the SPHA Board of Commissioners, said, "The board felt that Mr. Farley's redevelopment plan for the Graham and Rogall properties best met the needs of both the housing authority and the local community. We are excited to see the buildings move on

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### EXCITING NEWS

For all of the latest SPHA news, tune into WRXB Radio (Praise 1590-AM) on the second Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. and listen to SPHA's radio show!



# From the CEO's *Desk*



Darrell Irions

Thank you for reading "The Housing Homefront." We hope that this publication, in conjunction with

our website at [www.stpeteha.org](http://www.stpeteha.org) and our other community outreach activities, will answer your questions and keep you "in the know."

As you read in our cover story, the St. Petersburg Housing Authority (SPHA) is selling the Graham Park and Rogall Congregate buildings to a local developer, who is committed to keeping the apartments affordable. I've heard a few people ask why the housing authority couldn't convert the Graham/Rogall complex to affordable housing without having to sell it. The answer is simple – money. We simply did not have the available funds to handle a large-scale relocation and renovation. Federal use restrictions didn't help us either. Through our partnership with Urban Style Flats, we are able to take buildings that were not viable for one purpose and give them a new lease on life to the benefit of the city and its residents.

The sale of Graham/Rogall also provides the housing authority with the much-needed funds to reinvest in the development or acquisition of more affordable housing in SPHA's jurisdictional area, which includes St. Petersburg and a 10-mile radius outside of St. Petersburg. With the sale closing in early November, our staff currently is identifying potential properties that will provide more housing options for families in need. None of the proceeds of the sale will be spent on the construction of our new, permanent central office facility, which is planned for next year.

SPHA also is working hard to put the \$1.3 million that we received from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) into the community. This funding, along with our 2010 Capital Fund

**SPHA and DHA are tasked with providing quality, affordable and sustainable housing options within their cities and a 10-mile radius around them. The goal of both agencies is to increase the amount of available affordable housing throughout their entire jurisdictions, while also deconcentrating areas of poverty per HUD guidelines.**

grant, allows us to make necessary improvements to our existing public housing developments, while creating local jobs. Some of the construction projects include replacing doors, windows and appliances to create more energy-efficient units, which will save money for both our residents and the agency. I'm pleased to report that, as of September 30, 2010, \$1,103,881.90 or 85 percent of the total grant has been expended from the ARRA program. We are on track to beat HUD's expenditure deadline. The complete list of projects is included on page 8 of this newsletter.

Another of SPHA's priorities is to help get homeless veterans off of the streets. For me, this problem hits close to home, as I served in active and reserve duty capacities as an officer in the United States Marine

Corps. To help improve the quality of life for those who have already given this country so much, SPHA is administering a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development - Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) voucher program and is working to create Wounded Warrior housing in St. Petersburg. We also have partnered with Catholic Charities on their Pinellas Hope II homeless project, providing Section 8 funding for 40 of their transitional housing units.

At the Dunedin Housing Authority (DHA), we are working hard to rebuild both the public and affordable housing programs. The purchase of two apartment complexes in DHA's jurisdiction is underway, marking the first step in this process.

As you can see, SPHA and DHA are striving to create quality affordable housing in the communities we serve, with a goal of decreasing the concentration of poverty and empowering our residents to succeed. Make sure that you check in with us on our website, listen to us on WRXB Praise 1590 AM at 10:00 a.m. on the second Wednesday of the month, or attend one of our community presentations to stay up-to-date with all of our activities.

Have a great day and enjoy reading,

Darrell Irions, CEO

# Commissioner Update

## NAHRO Conference

SPHA Commissioners Delphinia Davis and Joseph Lettelleir attended the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials' (NAHRO) Commissioner's Fundamentals Seminar on July 24 and 25, 2010. The training, which was comprised of two sessions, reviewed the duties of commissioners as they govern the policy-making of the housing authority.



*SPHA commissioners Delphinia Davis and Joseph Lettelleir*

Commissioner Lettelleir said of the seminar, "Not only did I get a better appreciation of what is expected of commissioners, but through the continuing interaction of the participants, I learned just how good our authority is in comparison. Delphinia Davis and I continued to comment to each other how most of what

was discussed was already implemented and standard practice for our Authority. That was certainly not true of most of the others. We came away very comfortable as to our roles and the position of SPHA."

## St. Petersburg Housing Authority Board of Commissioners

Dr. Arnett Smith, Chair  
Harry L. Harvey, Vice Chair  
Delphinia Davis, Commissioner  
Joseph Lettelleir, Commissioner  
Lorraine Perry, Commissioner  
Lucinda Spire, Commissioner  
Dr. David Welch, Commissioner

## Dunedin Housing Authority Board of Commissioners

David Kelly, Chair  
Regina Lawrence, Vice Chair  
Shirley James, Commissioner  
David Thinel, Commissioner

## Negative Rent Initiative

Every year, SPHA pays approximately \$500,000 in negative rent. Negative rent is when a client's lack of income results in a negative number, and the client is then issued

the difference in the form of a utility check. It is an SPHA Board initiative to seek a change in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations so that the practice of paying negative rent is stopped, which will save taxpayer dollars and allow the housing authority to serve more families. The housing assistance programs, such as public housing and the Housing Choice Voucher program, were designed to temporarily assist low income families until they reach self sufficiency; the programs were not intended as a permanent provision.

As part of SPHA's Section 3 Resident Skills Assessment Program, public housing residents who report zero income and receive a negative rent check have been contacted by our contractor, Catholic Charities, to help them identify potential job opportunities.

## Housing America Month

October 2010 is "Housing America" month. Nationally, the "Housing America" campaign aims to educate decision makers and the general public about the importance of affordable housing and community development programs, as well as the challenges facing these programs. In support of local affordable housing initiatives, Mayor Bill Foster has declared October as "Housing America" month in the city of St. Petersburg. SPHA and DHA are proud to support these efforts.

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## Sale of Graham/Rogall Properties Moving Forward



*Planned renovation*

to their next highest and best use, while remaining an affordable housing option for downtown residents.”

Upon the signing of the agreement, Urban Style Flats provided the housing authority with an \$800,000.00 non-refundable deposit. They are leasing the Rogall portion of the properties from SPHA for \$6,400.00 per month until the sale closes in November.

SPHA Chief Executive Officer Darrell Irions said, “The proceeds from the sale of the Graham/Rogall buildings will provide SPHA with the opportunity to add much needed affordable housing stock in and around St. Petersburg. Our goal is to purchase and rehabilitate existing apartment complexes or to build new properties throughout SPHA’s jurisdiction, enabling us to reduce the concentration of poverty in some areas of the city and to better serve our residents.”

The Rogall building currently is under renovation. The refurbished units will serve first responders (firefighters, police, nurses, etc.), educators and student populations with affordable rents beginning at approximately \$500 per month.



*Actual renovation*

An overview of the history of the Graham/Rogall properties can be found on the housing authority’s website at <http://www.stpeteha.org/Graham-Rogall-Update.htm>. More information on the renovated units can be found online at [www.urbanstyleflats.com](http://www.urbanstyleflats.com).

# SPHA Announces Zero Findings for 2009 Audit

SPHA is proud to announce that independent external auditors reported zero findings for the agency's 2009 financial audit. This marks the third consecutive year that an audit of the housing authority has concluded with zero findings.

Conducted by Berman Hopkins Wright & LaHam CPAs and Associates, LLC, the audit reviewed the housing authority's finances and operations for the year ending December 31, 2009. Brian Nemeroff, CPA, reported to the SPHA Board of Commissioners at their June 23, 2010, Finance Committee meeting that SPHA received an unqualified opinion on the financial statements, which is the best audit opinion possible.

Dr. Arnett Smith, chairman of the SPHA Board of Commissioners, said, "The board's priority is to ensure that the housing authority is operated as transparently and as efficiently as possible. This annual audit of our financial operations continues to prove why SPHA is considered to be a national leader among housing authorities."

Since 1937, SPHA has developed and overseen affordable housing programs in the city of St. Petersburg and has consistently achieved "High Performer" status with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Chief Executive Officer Darrell Irions said, "The results of this audit are a testament to the good work of our staff, especially the staff of the Financial Management and Compliance Center, and the keen financial oversight of the Board of Commissioners. We undergo external audits every year to make sure that we comply with all government standards, and these are the results we strive to achieve to keep our agency a high performer."

## SPHA Purchases Land for New Central Office

SPHA purchased five acres of land in the Gateway Business Park, located on Gandy Boulevard in St. Petersburg, from Mercantile Bank for approximately \$1 million with the intent of using the site for a new,

permanent central office. The contract for the land, which was valued at \$1.3 million and was in foreclosure, was executed on April 12, and the sale closed on July 12.

### *SPHA's Offices Are Moving!*

Since August 2009, SPHA staff has been operating from the first floor of the Rogall building. Prior to the close of the building's sale in November, SPHA's central office will move to a temporary, leased space the Baker building in the Baypoint Commerce Center, located at 888 Executive Center Drive West, Suite 100, in St. Petersburg. The office will open to the public at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, October 11, 2010, and staff, including the Housing Choice Voucher/Section 8 department and housing authority administration, will remain there for the duration of the construction. Directions to the Baker building can be found on SPHA's website at [www.speteha.org](http://www.speteha.org).

SPHA's Chief Executive Officer Darrell Irions said, "The housing authority continues to work towards deconcentrating areas of poverty per U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requirements and expanding the availability of affordable housing in SPHA's jurisdiction, which includes the city of St. Petersburg and a 10-mile radius outside of the city. The strategy of moving our headquarters presents an opportunity for families living in areas of concentrated poverty to get comfortable exploring business and housing options in other parts of the city."

The construction of SPHA's permanent central office facility will be publicly bid, and housing authority management hopes that it will be built by fall 2011. Current plans show a 13,000 square foot office building on 1.6 acres of the land. SPHA plans to parcel and sell the remaining land, enabling the agency to reimburse the land cost. None of the proceeds from the sale of the Graham/Rogall buildings to Urban Style Flats, LLC, will be used to construct the new central office.

# SPHA's Programs Are HOUSING THE HOMELESS

On Tuesday, September 7, representatives from SPHA celebrated the grand opening of the 80-unit, handicap-accessible Pinellas Hope II housing project with Catholic Charities, local elected officials, and other community organizations. SPHA is one of the partners in the project, supplying approximately \$280,000 per year of on-going funding to Catholic Charities through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Project-Based Voucher program.

The funding is provided to Catholic Charities by SPHA in the form of 40 project-based housing vouchers, which will be made available to qualified applicants living at Pinellas Hope II.

SPHA Chief of Programs Melinda Perry said, "We are proud to be community partners in the fight against homelessness. Through these project-based vouchers, SPHA is able to provide meaningful and sustainable funding for Pinellas Hope II, which will help get people off of the streets and allow them to regain their lives. We also have other programs in place specifically to help homeless veterans, as it is unconscionable that anyone who has honorably served our country, and wants a roof over his or her head, is without a place to call home."

The Pinellas Hope II vouchers are just one of the ways that SPHA is helping to combat homelessness. SPHA also administers a HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) program in coordination with the Bay Pines Veterans Affairs Medical Center.



*September 7 Pinellas Hope II grand opening event*

The HUD-VASH vouchers allow veterans to rent private sector housing in St. Petersburg, contingent on their motivation to continue treatment and improve their individual circumstances.



*Living area of Pinellas Hope II apartment*

SPHA began the HUD-VASH program in 2009 after receiving 70 vouchers from HUD. Because of the success of the program and the community's support for it, SPHA was awarded an additional 125 HUD-VASH vouchers this year, bringing the total number of

available vouchers available under this program to house homeless veterans to 195. The new HUD-VASH vouchers are equivalent to approximately \$541,000.00 of additional funding over a 12-month period. This means that SPHA's HUD-VASH program is providing more than \$1.1 million of support to veterans in need.

Dr. Arnett Smith, chairman of the SPHA Board of Commissioners, said, "The expansion of SPHA's HUD-VASH program is a direct result of the great working partnership between SPHA, HUD, Veteran's Affairs, and the VA Medical Center in identifying and assisting homeless veterans. Thanks to the hard work of our staff, SPHA now will be able to put roofs over the heads of almost 200 veterans in need."

SPHA also has a veteran's preference in place for both its public housing and Housing Choice Voucher/Section 8 programs.

## SPHA Works to Combat Fraud

SPHA's Board of Commissioners and management are committed to eliminating fraud and recovering resources lost by fraudulent activity by residents, clients, landlords and suppliers. Fraud is a crime and diverts scarce resources away from the neediest of our clients.

SPHA formed its Fraud Prevention and Recovery program in 2001, with the goal of reducing the incidents of fraudulent activity in the Housing Choice Voucher/Section 8 program and saving taxpayer dollars. Since its inception, SPHA has recovered almost \$622,000 from landlords and tenants. One half of the funds recovered by SPHA's Fraud Prevention and Recovery team is reinvested in fraud recovery efforts and the other half is returned to HUD.

The Fraud Prevention and Recovery team members, now led by Compliance Officer Stephanie Carder, train staff on how to identify fraudulent tenant activities, investigate any potential cases of fraud, and work closely with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Inspector General (OIG), local, state and federal law enforcement agencies for prosecution of offenders. These efforts have resulted in numerous arrests of the worst offenders and have saved the taxpayers thousands of dollars, annually.

Through SPHA's "Operation Zero-In" initiative, staff also investigates Section 8 participants who report zero income or who report family contributions as their only income. This initiative has expanded efforts to determine unreported income and has been successful in saving even more taxpayer dollars. HUD's Earned Income Verification (EIV) system has been a great tool for SPHA staff in these investigative efforts. The EIV system allows the housing authority to gain access to the Department of Labor's information on employment income, and the use of this system has uncovered many assisted families failing to report their incomes correctly.

As of August 2010, SPHA has repayment agreements in place with 46 active Housing Choice Voucher participants totaling more than \$96,000.00. Year to date, SPHA has recovered more than \$66,000.00.

More information about SPHA's Fraud Prevention and Recovery program can be found online at [www.stpeteha.org](http://www.stpeteha.org). As a public agency, SPHA are committed to operating a transparent agency, accountable to the taxpayers who help fund us and the residents we serve.

## SPHA Receives 2010 Capital Fund Grant

SPHA has been awarded a grant by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under its Capital Fund program. SPHA will receive approximately \$1 million to develop, modernize and better manage public housing units.

SPHA's public housing program is an option for eligible low-income families, the elderly and persons with special needs with incomes up to 80 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI). Rent for a public housing unit typically is equal to 30 percent of the resident's monthly income. SPHA owns or administers 333 public housing units in the city of St. Petersburg. More information on SPHA's public housing program can be found online at <http://www.stpeteha.org/public-housing-programs.htm>.

SPHA's Chief of Programs Melinda Perry was invited by Florida Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials' (FAHRO) to speak about our fraud recovery efforts at their August conference in Orlando. SPHA is recognized as a national leader in affordable housing.



*New sign at Gateway Place Apartments*



*Renovated kitchen at Romayne Apartments*

# ARRA in Action

**In 2009, the St. Petersburg Housing Authority (SPHA) received an allocation of approximately \$1.3 million for the modernization of its public housing units under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The capital improvements made possible by the ARRA funds have enhanced the quality of life for SPHA residents, while helping the local economy through the creation of jobs.**

**Following is the list of the housing authority's ARRA-funded projects and their current statuses:**

- Clearview Park Roof/Gutter Replacement (Contract amount: \$55,260.00) - COMPLETE
  - Clearview Exterior Paint (Contract amount: \$15,950.00) - COMPLETE
  - Clearview Exterior Wall Improvements Repair (Contract amount: \$12,661.00)
  - Clearview Gas/Electrical Conversion (Contract amount: \$43,740.00) and Appliances (Change order: \$4,580 (CFP grant) - COMPLETE
  - Clearview Water Heater Purchase (Purchase Order \$6,918.00) - COMPLETE
  - Romayne Roof Replacement (Contract amount: \$89,000.00) - COMPLETE
  - Romayne HVAC Unit Relocation on Roof (Contract amount: \$16,933.00) - COMPLETE
  - Romayne Kitchen and Bath Replacement (Contract amount: \$227,100.00) - COMPLETE pending punch list
  - Romayne Windows and Doors Replacement (Contract amount: \$63,075.00) - COMPLETE
  - Disston Interior Doors Replacement (Purchase Order amount - \$38,659.00)
  - Gateway Exterior Improvements (Landscape/Signage/Fencing) (Contract amount: \$144,000.00) - COMPLETE pending punch list
  - Gateway Replace HVAC Units (Contract amount: \$55,800.00) - COMPLETE
  - Gateway Window Replacement (Contract amount: \$75,500.00) - COMPLETE
  - Jordan Park Exterior Paint/Repair (Contract amount: \$144,007.00) – COMPLETE
  - Section 3 Resident Skills Assessment (Contract amount: \$59,500.00) -Started March 1, 2010 - ongoing
  - Administration (Budget amount: \$129,763.00)
  - Construction Management/Inspection and A&E Fees for ARRA related work/contracts (Budget amount: \$129,763.00) - Work assigned to various architects and construction monitoring firms
  - TOTAL: \$1,297,629.00
- SPHA expects that all funding for these stimulus projects will be expended by March 2011, one year earlier than the required ARRA expenditure deadline of March 2012. In completing these stimulus projects, SPHA is compliant with all federal requirements involving Davis Bacon wage determination, Section 3 and M/WBE and SDB programs.
- To stay up-to-date with the progress of the ARRA projects, please check our website at <http://www.stpeteha.org/stimulus.htm>.



## SPHA'S SECTION 3 RESIDENT SKILLS ASSESSMENT PROGRAM IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

To help our residents become job-ready, SPHA has contracted with Catholic Charities to provide skill assessments and job-training opportunities for them. For the month ending August 31, 2010, Catholic Charities has contacted 62 SPHA public housing families and is assisting 41 residents. The participating residents have been interviewed regarding their current skills and desired goals and have been assessed for specific training and educational needs. Since the program began, eleven residents have become employed as a result of the Section 3 Resident Skills Assessment program and a total of 295 residents have been contacted.

Here are some of the program's success stories:

### *Case Study # 1:*

After graduating from Pinellas Technical Education Centers-St. Petersburg in June 2009 with a certificate as a nursing assistant/home health aide, a public housing resident still experienced difficulties in obtaining stable employment. As a single mother, she had several issues that prevented her from finding a job with consistent hours and good pay. But, on February 25, 2010, Sylvia Wells Moore, SPHA's Section 3 Case Manager, arrived at her door offering hope.

During the next several weeks, Ms. Moore worked with the resident to find her a position with a local health care agency that would meet her needs. The resident began working in home health care on May 23, 2010, and now is scheduled for 32 hours a week, Monday through Friday. She is thrilled with her new job.

This resident also is determined to take the steps needed to reach her long-term goal of becoming a radiology technician. She plans to take placement tests at Hillsborough Community College for their two-year radiology technician program, which will start January 2011, and to apply for a PELL Grant. Her daughter, who is five years old, will start kindergarten in the fall, and the resident is looking forward to starting school again right along with her!

### *Case Study # 2:*

In April 2010, Sylvia Wells Moore, SPHA's Section 3 Case Manager, learned that one of SPHA's contractors, Bay Glass and Windows, was interested in hiring a Section 3 resident for an ARRA project at Romaine Apartments. The company's owner said that he had met a resident during a site visit who seemed interested in the work.

Ms. Moore immediately contacted the resident with information about the Section 3 program, and learned that he had been an air conditioning and heating mechanic, before a back injury in June 2009 kept him out of work. The resident was hired by Bay Glass and Windows for the duration of the Romaine project. In fact, the owner was so pleased with his work that he offered the resident continued employment!

Ms. Moore currently is working with him to find future employment in his previous line of work as an HVAC mechanic with contractors on other housing authority projects. While his back injury may keep him from lifting too much, this resident's motivation to seek employment is unstoppable!

For more information about the Section 3 Resident Skills Assessment Program, please contact Ms. Sylvia Wells Moore, program representative, at 727-893-1313, ext. 251, or by e-mail at [smoore@ccdosp.org](mailto:smoore@ccdosp.org).

# SPHA Gives Back to Our Community

## SPHA Partners with St. Petersburg Fire and Rescue Department for High Rise Training

On selected dates throughout April, May and June, the St. Petersburg Fire and Rescue Department held a large-scale training exercise for more than 1200 firefighters from 18 Pinellas County Fire Departments at the SPHA's Graham Park building in downtown St. Petersburg.

SPHA Asset Management Officer Luis Gregory said, "The fire departments needed a safe place to train for High Rise fires, and the housing authority has the Graham building available. We have worked with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office before on smaller training exercises with great success. We believe that our entire community will benefit from this type of training and these inter-agency partnerships."

According to the St. Petersburg Fire and Rescue Department, this training event allowed comprehensive hands-on experience and will create an opportunity for fire personnel to learn, apply, and give feedback regarding "Best Practices" in high-rise fire fighting operations. Demonstrations included High-rise Firefighting Operations, High-rise Aerial Rescue Operations, High-rise Evacuation Procedures, and High-rise Water Supply and Hose Placement.

The training was held as part of an effort to craft a regional high-rise policy and create consistent standards for the region. Participating fire departments included Clearwater, Dunedin, Eastlake, Gulfport, Largo, Lealman, Madeira Beach, Oldsmar, Palm Harbor, Pinellas Park, Pinellas Suncoast, Safety Harbor, Seminole, South Pasadena, St. Petersburg Beach, St. Petersburg, Tarpon Springs, and Treasure Island.



*SPHA also has partnered with the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office's SWAT team for training at Graham/Rogall. Pictured is SPHA Asset Management Officer Luis Perez (center) with members of the SWAT team.*

## SPHA Participates in MDA Lock-Up

On May 19, SPHA participated in the Muscular Dystrophy Association's (MDA) 2010 Downtown St. Petersburg Lock-Up event. The purpose of the charity event was to raise funds to support families in St. Petersburg living with neuromuscular diseases, such as Lou Gerhig's/ALS, and research for a cure.

SPHA Chief Executive Officer Darrell Irions said, "SPHA is honored to participate in this event and to help raise money for MDA's research efforts. This is especially personal for the housing authority, as one of our staff members lost an infant last year to spinal muscular atrophy, which is a type of muscular dystrophy similar to a pediatric form of ALS."

SPHA's Executive Office Manager Michelle Dennis represented the housing authority as one of the MDA's "Most Wanted Citizens" and faced a one-hour "incarceration" at the St. Pete Hilton Bayfront Hotel. In order to free her, SPHA staff members raised more than \$600 of personal contributions, which was donated to local MDA members living with ALS.

The MDA is the nonprofit health agency dedicated to curing muscular dystrophy, ALS and related diseases by funding worldwide research. The MDA also provides comprehensive health care and support services, advocacy and education. More information about the MDA and "Jerry's Kids" can be found at [www.mda.org](http://www.mda.org). More information about spinal muscular atrophy can be found at [www.curesma.org](http://www.curesma.org).



# Dunedin Housing Authority News

## You Can Design DHA's New Logo

DHA is asking Dunedin residents of all ages to design its new agency logo as part of a logo contest, which began on August 24, 2010. DHA is in the process of rebuilding its public and affordable housing programs and would like to create a logo as a symbol of this effort.

David Kelly, DHA board chairman, said, "We are excited to see the community's vision for our agency through this logo contest. We are proud to be community partners, and we look forward to providing more affordable housing options for city residents."

The logo contest has two categories: the "Student" category, which is open to all students enrolled in Dunedin public and private schools, and the "General Public" category, which is open to all other Dunedin residents.

The logo should represent DHA's mission to provide a variety of safe, sanitary, accessible, decent and affordable housing to eligible citizens. Only original art will be accepted.

The designer of the winning logo will receive a cash prize of \$100.00, and the runner-up will receive a cash prize of

\$50.00. The top five contest finalists in each of the two categories also will receive a "Certificate of Appreciation" from DHA.

The contest is open now, and logos are due on Friday, October 29, 2010, by 5:00 p.m. for judging. The category in which the designer is entering must be clearly marked on the entry, and complete contact information must be provided. Logos may be submitted as a JPEG or PDF file via e-mail to [abutler@stpeteha.org](mailto:abutler@stpeteha.org), or logos may be submitted on paper to:

**DHA Logo Contest**  
**c/o St. Petersburg Housing Authority**  
**Attn: Audra Butler,**  
**Communications Officer**  
**P.O. Box 12849**  
**St. Petersburg, FL 33733**

The winning logo and runner-up will be announced at a special awards ceremony on Tuesday, November 16, 2010, at 4:30 p.m., following the DHA Board of Commissioner's regular meeting at Dunedin City Hall, 542 Main Street in Dunedin.

For more information, please contact Audra Butler, Communications Officer at 727-773-6198 or [abutler@stpeteha.org](mailto:abutler@stpeteha.org).

## DHA Is Committed to Providing Affordable Housing in Dunedin

DHA is in the process of purchasing two ten-unit apartment buildings within its jurisdiction, which includes the city of Dunedin and 10 miles beyond the city limits, as the first step of rebuilding their public and affordable housing programs. The housing authority has been working for the past year to identify suitable land and/or existing apartment complexes for acquisition.

David Kelly, DHA board chairman, said, "The board's priority is to acquire or build additional affordable housing options in and around the city of Dunedin. Our goal is to be able to provide safe, quality housing to Dunedin residents in need. Our purchase of these buildings is the beginning of this process."

### CONTACT

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