

# the RRHA Spirit

Richmond Redevelopment & Housing Authority  
901 Chamberlayne Parkway • Richmond, VA 23220

Newsletter for Residents

## In This Exciting New Year --- 'A Change We Can Believe In!'

What an exciting time we're living in today. Our country has unanimously elected a brand new president with excitingly new and creative ideas to move us upward and forward to conquer new horizons.

On a more local scale, many residents in the city of Richmond are making history as participants in the largest inner-city community revitalization initiative in our time. The North Jackson Ward / Dove Street communities revitalization plan completion will catapult the city of Richmond to role model status as a city of more vibrant, safer and more prosperous communities for other cities to emulate.

But the biggest, most important and most successful revitalization plans are the ones that are constructed and renovated from the foundation of our inner-being. In order to successfully strengthen the foundation of our inner-being we must first be willing not just to accept outward change, but be willing to change from within. What a wonderful time in history to embrace change. "Everyone thinks of changing the world, but no one thinks of changing himself." (-Leo Tolstoi) In this brand new year with brand new opportunities, let us all commit to a brand new resolve---a resolve of upper mobility through inner change.

Remember, most people dislike even the thought of change, yet change is the only avenue that leads to progress, and that avenue to progress begins when we first take steps to change from within.

## Annual Gilpin Community Christmas Celebration: A Warm Spirited Holiday Event!



*Gilpin community leader Annie Mahdee (l) RRHA Commissioner Guenett Beshah (c) RRHA Executive Director Anthony Scott pose with excited participants during Annual Christmas Celebration*

Christmas time is a magically wonderful time of the year. It's that special time of the year when all of our great attributes, like caring for our love ones and neighbors, and sharing with strangers are elevated to a saintly place. All over the world the warm and giving spirits of people reflect the love, compassion, and desire that's in our hearts to love one another. Fortunately for many of us, that we

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## Community Involvement Key to Master Plan Success!



Every great vision and plan for community improvement, in order to succeed, must have direct involvement from the residents it is intended to serve. The greater the community involvement, the greater the success of the project. This statement is most evident as Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority continues moving forward successfully with its revitalization plan for the North Jackson Ward and Dove Street areas. Significant community involvement, without a doubt, plays a most important role in RRHA's Strategic Plan vision of creating safer, more

vibrant and progressive communities throughout the city of Richmond.

As RRHA commends its residents for their direct involvement in this massive community revitalization plan project, it also encourages ALL residents to get involved by attending North Jackson Ward - Dove Street Master Planning public meetings (see public meeting schedules on back page). Also residents are encouraged to take advantage of the many life-skills enhancement programs and self-sufficiency program opportunities available through The Capacity Building Office. See Master Planning public meeting reports on pages 4 and 5.



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