



Developing Homes, Transforming Lives

NEW HORIZONS

Fall 2009

A Message from Seila



This year has been an extraordinary one; with many challenges but also with many accomplishments. We had to quickly learn how to survive with limited resources, we had to stretch them and look for new ones. We had to re-write applications moving them from one program to another because funding was gone. We had to advocate for more resources locally, at the state level and nationally; we had to adapt to a new environment.

It was a new environment that limited our ability to produce and provide more homes to low and moderate income families, an environment that made community development work more challenging, an environment that made those communities with less resources more vulnerable.

I have to say that it has not been easy, but I have not been alone. I have had an incredibly committed group of people working side by side with me. My promise to them: find ways to keep everyone. Their promise to me: to work and do whatever

needs to be done to keep the level of services our residents deserve and continue our real estate development work. We looked for ways to be more efficient, ways to cut expenses. We became greener, we started to use real silverware instead of disposables and we recycle more. I also learned that we have incredible friends that really care and believe in our work. I recall looking at my budget thinking how was I going to make it work when the funding for our projects had vanished. At that particular moment, I received a phone call from our friends at the Melville Charitable Trust, they were concerned about our operations and wanted to know how they could help us. I mentioned the gap and a month later we received a check to cover it. NeighborWorks America responded to our needs and looking for ways to support our work, they allowed us to convert restricted capital into operating funding.

It is in moments like this that I believe that I am in the right place; that we are not alone in this journey; that obstacles can be overcome; and that we can bring hope to those less fortunate by letting them know that they are not alone either. Our funders and supporters have been there to make sure that our residents have stable homes while we continue the production of more quality homes. Our enrichment programs have provided more knowledge and support to our families and to the community at large. We have more friends and volunteers that believe in our mission.

For this coming year we are looking to improve our resident and

community development programs. We are incorporating a life coaching component that will allow residents to set up goals for themselves and their families. They will also have access to trainings, tools and support that would make the difference in their ability to budget, find better employment opportunities, purchase a car and succeed economically. We are also looking to create more homeownership opportunities, produce more affordable rental homes while continuing neighborhood revitalization, organizational growth, and staff and board development.

Looking toward another exciting year and to continue working with all of you, to make this world a better place to live for all of us!

Seila Mosquera, Executive Director

Foreclosure Prevention Counseling Program

NeighborWorks® New Horizons is a HUD-approved counseling agency. Our foreclosure prevention counseling program provides FREE counseling services to homeowners who are in danger of losing their homes.

Our objective is to assist homeowners avoid foreclosure, stay in their homes and remain part of their community. We work with homeowners to assess their immediate needs and look at options to prevent foreclosure.

For more information call: 203-562-4514 and speak with Jose Santos at Ext 24 or Jennifer Levine at Ext 28 to set up an appointment.

Two NeighborWork's Residents Receive Awards

Janice Curry of Guilford won the Dorothy Richardson Award for Resident Leadership from NeighborWorks® America. Janice serves the Boy Scouts, the Guilford Resident Council, American Cancer Society, Yellow Ribbon Mothers and many other organizations to help build a strong community. She is Vice President of the NeighborWorks Board of Directors.

Janice Curry picture on page 9 with James Word, NeighborWorks America Regional Relationship Manager presents award to Janice Curry.

Kim Streater a resident of Ferry Street in New Haven won the Janice Elliot Award, a Supportive Housing Tenants Award for Community Service from the Connecticut Partnership for Strong Communities. Kim has consistent

community involvement and especially enjoys helping youths in the neighborhood. Kim speaks at events including the Capital in Hartford on the benefits of supportive housing. She's recently been voted onto the Board of Directors for NeighborWorks New Horizons.

Kim Streater pictured on page 10.



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