



Please visit the new MHA website: [www.meridianhousing.net](http://www.meridianhousing.net)

**Meridian Housing Authority  
Board of Commissioners**  
 Wilbert Jones Chairman  
 Donnie Smith Vice Chairman  
 Jeanelle Kidd Commissioner  
 Rob Arline Commissioner  
 Greg Lane Commissioner

Mail To:

## December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Rent Due	4	5 RAB Meeting	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Fair Housing Mtg.	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 RAB Meeting	20	21	22
23/ 30	24/Christmas Eve 31 New Years Eve	25	26	27	28	29



### RESIDENT MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE FOR MARCH

12/13 Oakland Heights	@ 10:00 a.m.	Community Center
12/14 Western Garden	@ 3:30 p.m.	Community Center
12/11 George Reese Court	@ 3:30 p.m.	Community Center
12/12 Magnolia Court	@ 3:30 p.m.	Community Center
12/19 Mt. Barton	@ 3:30 p.m.	Community Center
12/20 Eastern Garden	@ 3:30 p.m.	Community Center
12/17 Sowashee Courts	@ 3:30 p.m.	Community Center
12/18 Highway Village	@ 2:30 p.m.	Community Center
12/27 Mt. View Village	@ 3:30 p.m.	Community Center



#### The MHA Home Life Newsletter For Residents

The MHA Home Life Newsletter For Residents is published monthly by the Resident Community & Supportive Services Department. We welcome submissions and we reserve the right to edit all materials used. Materials may be submitted to:

Meridian Housing Authority  
 Resident Services Department, Attn. Newsletter  
 2305 D. Street, Meridian, MS 39301  
 OR  
 E-mail to: [saustin@meridianhousing.net](mailto:saustin@meridianhousing.net)  
[edubose@meridianhousing.net](mailto:edubose@meridianhousing.net)



# HOME LIFE

## MERIDIAN HOUSING AUTHORITY

"Committed to Excellence"



Monthly newsletter of housing and community activities published for MHA residents

December 2018

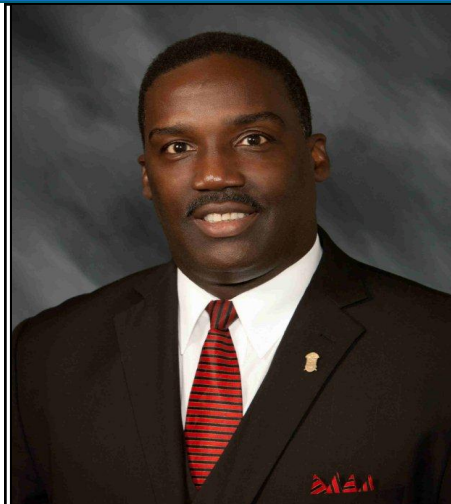
### MHA Remembers 2018

Although the year 2018 has been a year filled with great joy and some regrets, MHA has remained "Committed to Excellence" while serving its residents.





# “Committed to Excellence”



**Ronald J. Turner, Sr., PHM**  
Executive Director

## Executive Director’s Message

As the joy of the Christmas season fills the air, I take great pride in announcing the joyful efforts taken towards ensuring successful operation at the Meridian Housing Authority over the past 12 months. Immediately after receiving a \$189,000 HUD Safety and Security grant, security cameras and surveillance systems have been installed on all MHA affordable housing properties. After receiving HUD approval of the Capital Fund Financing program, several major improvement projects have occurred throughout the agency including; interior paint upgrades; heating unit replacements; fire extinguisher replacement and upgrades; windows and storm door replacements, refrigerator and range replacements; electrical upgrades in addition to enhancing curbside and containerized waste removal.

I would like to express my deepest appreciation to the staff, resident advisory leadership and MHA Commissioners for making these accomplishments possible.

May the marvel of Christmas fill your hearts with loads of warmth and love. May God richly bless you and your family.



## RAB President’s Message



Once again we have come together to celebrate the ending of one year and the beginning of yet another year. As we look back over the year of 2018 and think of the many great things that happened, we are filled with joy and much happiness. I know that a few of us had some difficult times but we found the courage to overcome those disappointments. We have greeted new children and seen other loved ones celebrate milestones of living a wonderful life.

I have had the honor of representing the residents of Western Gardens or as I would like to refer to our site as the “Gardens of Western”, for more than ten years. I have truly enjoyed working with all of the Resident Presidents in our attempt to empower residents and working with the Authority to improve the quality of life for all residents. I am planning to take advantage of the home ownership program and with my family move from Western Gardens in the near future. I want to spend the next several months preparing someone to assume the role of RAB President as I prepare to purchase my own home.

Again, I would like to thank the MHA staff for all the encouragement they have given me. I want to ask each resident to take advantage of the opportunities MHA offers to become Heroes and Not Zeros! Have a great holiday!



**Brenda Griffin, President**

## MHA Outstanding Community Partner

MHA is pleased to announce Tray Long as our Community Partner for the month of June. Tray and his family contributed their time, money and faith to assist a desiring mother of four secure an apartment with us. The Long’s made it possible for the family to be reunited by sharing their home until arrangements could be made to move the family into an apartment. This remarkable act of love and giving demonstrates the fact that Tray and his family are a family of faith and giving. Kudos to the Long family.



## MHA Outstanding Resident

Ashley Franklin has been working with MHA’s Community and Supportive Services Department HCV Coordinator Elaine Dubose to realize a life long dream of home ownership. The Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Homeownership program at MHA allowed Ashley to purchase her and home using her HUD approved Housing Choice Voucher. Ashley closed on her home this year while working with MHA staff and committed real estate agent Eddie Welch of the Hill Agency. Local bankers Tra Alford and Leslie Portis of Citizens National Bank also assisted in this process. MHA would like to congratulate Ms. Franklin in her realizing her dream of home ownership.



## Your Input is Needed!

**THE MERIDIAN HOUSING AUTHORITY** is currently conducting a fair housing study known as the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI). This study is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as a condition for receiving federal housing and community development funds. This study is intended to identify barriers to fair housing choice and propose recommendations to address those barriers.

The AI is being done as part of a statewide collaboration that includes the Mississippi Home Corporation, Mississippi Development Authority, 50 local and regional Public Housing Authorities and the cities of Biloxi, Gulfport, Hattiesburg, Jackson, Moss Point, and Pascagoula.

The purpose of the AI is to identify and evaluate potential obstacles or impediments to a person's ability to choose their residence free from discrimination, and to recommend actions that address such impediments. The AI provides: 1) an overview of laws, regulations, and administrative policies and procedures; 2) an assessment of how those laws affect the location, availability, and accessibility of housing; and 3) an assessment of conditions, both public and private, affecting fair housing choice.

Please plan to attend this Fair Housing meeting as citizen participation is the best way to help identify affordable housing needs that help shape housing for our community.

The meeting is scheduled for **DECEMBER 12, 2018, 11:00AM AT THE MERIDIAN HOUSING AUTHORITY TRAINING ROOM- 2425 E. STREET, MERIDIAN, MS**



## Community Partners of the Month



**Health Care on the Go** is a community health partner that will make house calls for residents who are unable to leave their apartment. Health Care on the Go offers same day or next day service, seven days a week and come right to your door. The staff provide a full range of preventive medical services, including acute or chronic disease, evaluation and management.

If you need medical assistance and are unable to go to the hospital or clinic contact Health Care on the Go at 601-282-8226.



New Beginnings is located at 6961 Poplar Springs Drive.

**New Beginnings Ministries Outreach Program** is a new community organization that focuses on giving assistance to families in need. They have food, clothes, furniture, dishes and many other household items available to MHA and community residents in need.

Let's make this holiday season one of the healthiest of times. Get your flu shots and schedule a check up visit with your medical provider.



## MHA IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Maintenance Department 601 483-3328; Social Services 601 693-2800; Frank Berry Courts 601 482-1880; Eastern Gardens 601 482-3312; Mountain View Village 601 481-3424; Western Gardens 601 483-8612; Oakland Heights 601 481-3421; Highway Village, 8th & 9th Ave. 483-1816; George Reese Courts/Magnolia Courts 601 693-4586; Mount Barton/Sowashee Courts 601 483-0202; Carousel Place 601 482-0085; J.T. Davis 601 482-0077; MHA Police Liaison Cell (601)527-0407; Meridian Police Dispatch 601-601-484-6845