

Spring 1 2019

# SERculator

SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF HOUSING AND CD PROFESSIONALS  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HOUSING REDEVELOPMENT OFFICIALS

*Take Another Road*



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Kentucky ..... Vickie Smiley  
Mississippi.....Vickie Cole  
North Carolina..... Anna McRae  
South Carolina.....Pancea Lewi  
West Virginia ..... Sharon Harmon

**SERC REGION:**

- Alabama
- Florida
- Georgia
- Kentucky
- Mississippi
- North Carolina
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Virginia
- West Virginia

The SERCulator is the official publication of the Southeastern Regional Council of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials. The SERCulator is published quarterly. Comments, suggestions, articles, features and photographs are solicited in interest of the members of Southeastern Regional Council of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials. Although all submissions are subject to approval and editing, every effort will be made to publish submissions based on available space. Photos cannot be returned.

Send submissions to:  
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# A message from your SERC President

## Dear Serc Colleagues:

I know it is early, but so far, this year has certainly been exciting. We endured a long and unnecessary government shutdown that cast uncertainty and fear into our programs and caused many problems for our agencies and our residents. Then, we had good news regarding the funding levels provided by the new budget bill, however, this merely begins the battle for a new budget that is already behind in the process. Make sure to reach out to your legislators to thank them for this year's funding levels and also to educate them on other issues of importance.



Sean Gilbert  
SERC-NAHRO PRESIDENT

There are plenty of pending items to be watching - the proposed rule regarding illegal immigrants, HUD's Voluntary Conversion notice, Moving -To -Work Cohorts, Opportunity Zones, Repositioning, RAD, work requirements and so much more. Our industry is changing before our eyes and it is imperative that we make sure we are educated and "at the table" if we wish to make sure that these changes are beneficial to all concerned. On top of all this, we are entering a new election cycle that is sure to have major impacts on not only our great country, but also on the affordable housing industry.

I hope you are making plans to attend the 2019 SERC Annual Conference in Orlando, FL this June. The program is packed with opportunities and will be certain to meet the educational needs of everyone who attends. In these ever changing times, attendance at these meetings is important, and a great way to learn about all that is happening to shape the future of our industry.

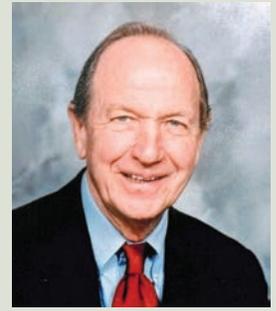
Thanks for all that you do for your residents, SERC and your individual communities!



## Jim Haley

Dec. 1, 1928 - March 15, 2019

WINSTON-SALEM - James Kenneth "Jim" Haley, 90, passed away on March 15, at The Pines in Davidson, NC, from a debilitating disease, Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP). He was born December 1, 1928, in Elberton, GA, to the late William Harris and Ruby Ginn Haley. Jim graduated from Elberton High School where he played varsity football and basketball. He served two years in the Marine Corps, attended the University of Georgia, and graduated from Wofford College in 1952 where he belonged to Pi Kappa Phi fraternity.



Jim served as the the executive director of Urban Renewal and Public Housing in Winston-Salem, where he lived for 50 years. After retiring from the housing authority, he formed James K. Haley and Associates, developing commercial real estate. Jim was a member of Centenary Methodist Church, Stratford Rotary Club, Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce and Forsyth County Club. He also served 10 years on the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency board of directors under two governors and was an active member of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) for many years and served as president of its Southeastern division.

Jim is survived by his college sweetheart and wife of 65 years, Margaret Kennette Haley, his daughters Julee Haley Carr (Greg) of Cornelius and Meg Haley Fryling (Bill) of Charlotte; two siblings, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.



### Scholarship Auction—Annual Conference, Orlando, FL



The Scholarship Committee is looking forward to the annual conference scholarship auction in Orlando, FL. All states have been asked to provide four or more themed baskets for a silent and live auction. The conference is fast approaching. Please notify Madelyn Dotson at [mdotson@southcharlestonhousing.org](mailto:mdotson@southcharlestonhousing.org) with your basket ideas!

Silent Auction  
**LIVE Auction**  
Luncheon

Something for Everyone!



Let's all help raise our  
**SERC Scholarship Funds!**



# SERC Officers | 2017-2019



## **PRESIDENT**

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cindybha@comcast.net



## **VP OF MEMBER SERVICES**

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sburchett@morristownpha.org



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**Sean Gilbert** is the senior vice president of housing for the Knoxville Community Development Corporation in Knoxville, TN where he has been for the past two years. Sean has his bachelor's degree in urban planning from Virginia Tech. He was the executive director of Housing Authority of Pikeville, August 1995–February 2014. Sean serves as the president for SERC.

**Mark E. Taylor** is the CEO of the Charleston-Kenawha Housing Authority. He has over 18 years' experience in public housing and holds a bachelor's degree in accounting. Mark is a district two board member for WVAHA. He is senior vice president for SERC and the past treasurer and past vice president for housing and for CR&D.

**Shaundra Clark** of Tifton, GA is the current secretary for SERC. Shaundra serves as executive director at the Tifton, GA housing authority and has over 23 years' experience in public housing. She holds a business administration degree as well as a master's in public policy and administration. Shaundra is chairperson of the convention committee and past president for GAHRA, and has served on numerous SERC committees in the past.

**Anthony Goodson, Jr** is the chief executive officer of the Housing Authority of the city of Goldsboro in Goldsboro, NC. He has approximately 12 years' service in public housing and serves as the board secretary for CCHRCO. Anthony is treasurer for SERC and serves as a member of the 40 under 40 committee, the rental assistance committee and vice president of member services.

**Michael Wong** is the executive director of the Harrisonburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority. He has 18 years' service in public housing and is past president of VAHCDO. Michael serves as vice president of housing for SERC and as a member of the legislative committee. He has a bachelor's degree in economics from James Madison University.

**Cindy Peast Harrington** is the executive director of Bluefield Housing Authority in Bluefield, WV. Cindy has over 31 years of experience working with public housing agencies, with the last 27 serving in the position of executive director at Bluefield. She holds a bachelor's degree from Marshall University and master's degree from Mountain State University. She has served as board member, secretary, vice president and president of the West Virginia Association of Housing Agencies. She is currently the vice president for professional development, and has also served on several other SERC committees. She served as program chairperson for the 2015 and 2017 Annual Conference.

**Jan B. Piersol** of Newberry, SC will be serving as vice president of member services. She is the executive director of the Housing Authority of the city of Newberry with 35 years of experience in the housing industry. She holds a business administration degree. She is past president of CCHRCO and has served on numerous committees for CCHRCO and SERC.

**Stephen Burchett** is the finance director for the Morristown Housing Authority in Morristown, TN. He has twenty-five years' service in public and assisted housing. Stephen has his bachelor's degree in business administration and finance from Morehead State University. Stephen serves as vice president of CR&D for SERC.

**Henrietta Snipes** is a commissioner for the Opelika Housing Authority, Opelika, Alabama. She has been a commissioner for 21 years where she has served as chairperson for NAHRO's commissioner's committee. She has worked with the professional development sub-committee, served as track chairperson and is a NAHRO trainer and mentor for commissioners. In addition Henrietta was the Alabama Association of Housing and Redevelopment Association's 2015 Commissioner of the Year. She has certifications in all courses that are offered by NAHRO for commissioners. Henrietta's post-secondary education is from Southern Union College, Auburn University and Point University.

# SERC Committee | Chairs | 2017-2019

## Executive Committee

### STEERING COMMITTEE

|                             |                         |    |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----|
| President                   | Sean Gilbert            | TN |
| Sr. VP                      | Mark Taylor             | WV |
| Secretary                   | Shaundra Clark          | GA |
| Treasurer                   | Anthony Goodson         | NC |
| VP Commissioners            | Henrietta Snipes        | AL |
| VP Professional Development | Cindy Preast-Harrington | WV |
| VP CR&D                     | Stephen Burchett        | TN |
| VP Member Services          | Jan Piersol             | SC |
| VP Housing                  | Michael Wong            | VA |

### STATE REPRESENTATIVES

|    |                      |
|----|----------------------|
| AL | Dannie Walker        |
| FL | Miguell Del Campillo |
| GA | Pat Bennett          |
| KY | Vickie Smiley        |
| MS | Ginger Ming          |
| NC | Burnetta Smith       |
| SC | Randy Mathis         |
| TN | Paul Dellinger       |
| VA | Connie Staudinger    |
| WV | Jeff Knight          |

### PAST PRESIDENTS

|              |               |    |
|--------------|---------------|----|
| Immediate PP | Dave Baldwin  | VA |
| Second PP    | Ailrick Young | MS |
| Third PP     | Thomas Rowe   | TN |

## President's Portfolio

### ANNUAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

#### 2018—Norfolk, VA

|                      |                       |    |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----|
| Conference Chair     | Shannon Biggs (Chair) | KY |
| Program Chairperson  | Connie Howard         | SC |
| Exhibits Chairperson | Gary Erwin            | GA |
| Registration         | Jake Oglesby          | GA |
|                      | Angie Strickland      | GA |
| Opening Ceremony     | Wanda Stevens-Ruckman | VA |
| Ushers               | Charlie Harrinton     | VA |
| Awards Ceremony      | Michael Boatwright    | GA |
| Flag Ceremony        | Charlie Harrington    | VA |
| Golf Tournament      | Tom Wachs             | AL |

#### 2019—Orlando FL

|                      |                       |    |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----|
| Conference Chair     | Shannon Biggs (Chair) | KY |
| Program Chairperson  | Donna Lamer           | SC |
| Exhibits Chairperson | Gary Erwin            | GA |
| Registration         | Jake Oglesby          | GA |
|                      | Angie Strickland      | GA |
| Opening Ceremony     | Jeff Rieck            | KY |
| Ushers               | Kaye Judson           | MS |
| Awards Ceremony      | Michael Boatwright    | GA |
| Flag Ceremony        | Gerald Board          | KY |
| Golf Tournament      | Tom Wachs             | AL |

### Hospitality

|     |                      |    |
|-----|----------------------|----|
| RAD | Jan Piersol (Chair)  | SC |
|     | Joyce Floyd          | TN |
|     | James Cox (Co-Chair) | NC |

## Sean Gilbert

## Emerging Leaders

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| Sharita Oates (Chair)      | NC |
| Eliana Jones (Vice Chair)  | NC |
| Mentors: The NAHRO Fellows |    |
| Lisa Porter (Chair)        | VA |
| Tom Wachs, Co-Chair        | AL |
| Abraham Williams, Co-Chair | KY |
| Marilyn Medley             | TN |
| Joyce Floyd                | TN |

## Small Agency Task Force

### Youth Leadership Development

### Executive Committee Coordinator

### Strategic Plan Coordinator

## Senior Vice President's Portfolio

### Budget Committee

BC members:

BC members:

BC members:

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Mark Taylor               |    |
| Clifton Clark (Chair)     | WV |
| Courtney Coleman          | AL |
| Anthony Woods             | FL |
| All Steering Comm Members |    |

### Legislative Committee

### Policy Advisory Committee

PA member:

PA member:

PA member:

PA member:

### Nominating Committee

NC member:

NC member:

NC member:

### Intern'l Research & Global Exchange

### Site Selection Committee

|                         |    |
|-------------------------|----|
| Mike Sweet (Chair)      | AL |
| Thomas Rowe             | TN |
| Tina Akers-Brown        | NC |
| Austin Simms            | KY |
| Don Cameron             | SC |
| Ailrick Young           | MS |
| Ailrick Young, Chair    | MS |
| Thomas Rowe             | TN |
| Tina Akers-Brown        | NC |
| Austin Simms            | KY |
| Edwina Burnett          | SC |
| Judy Mellard (Chair)    | MS |
| Jake Oglesby, Co-Chair  | GA |
| Shannon Biggs, Co-Chair | KY |

## Secretary's Portfolio

### History/Archival Committee

### Resolutions

## Shaundra Clark

|                       |    |
|-----------------------|----|
| Edwina Burnett        | AL |
| Dannie Walker (Chair) | AL |

## Treasurer's Portfolio

## Anthony Goodson

|              |    |
|--------------|----|
| Becky Holmes | SC |
|--------------|----|

## VP Housing's Portfolio

### Housing Committee

### Rental Assistance Committee

## Michael Wong

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| Ginger Ming (Chair)        | MS |
| Elizabeth McKinney (Chair) | SC |

## VP CR&D's Portfolio

### C R & D Committee

## Stephen Burchett

|                       |    |
|-----------------------|----|
| Jesse Norwood (Chair) | AL |
|-----------------------|----|

## VP Professional Development's Portfolio

### Professional Development

(Fall Workshop)

### Administrative Practice

### Education and Training

## Cindy Preast-Harrington

|                         |    |
|-------------------------|----|
| Buddy Oldfield (Chair)  | GA |
| Douglas Freeman (Chair) | GA |
| Becky Hartman (Chair)   | GA |

## VP Member Services' Portfolio

### Public Affairs/SERCulator

### Member Services

### Scholarship

## Jan Piersol

|                          |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| Reta Thomas (Chair)      | GA |
| Latonia Simmons (Chair)  | GA |
| Madelyn Dotson, Co-Chair | WV |
| Kay Judson, Co-chair     | MS |
| Don Clemons              |    |
| Ed Johnston              |    |

## Insurance-Housing Benefits Plan

### Retirement-HART

## Henrietta Snipes

## VP Commissioners' Portfolio

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| John Austin (Chair) | NC |
|---------------------|----|

## 2017-2019 Small Agency Task Force

|                        |    |  |                     |  |
|------------------------|----|--|---------------------|--|
| Jones, Ron             | AL | Clanton Housing Authority                  | Ph: 205-755-1801    | <a href="mailto:ronmjones@bellsouth.net">ronmjones@bellsouth.net</a>                 |
| Richardson, Doris      | AL | Evergreen Housing Authority                | Ph: 251-578-1488    | <a href="mailto:evhouseauth@bellsouth.net">evhouseauth@bellsouth.net</a>             |
| Rowe, Mollie           | AL | Eutaw Housing Authority                    | PH: 205-372-3926    | <a href="mailto:eutawhau@att.net">eutawhau@att.net</a>                               |
| Reddick, Catherine     | FL | Bartow HA                                  | Ph: 863-533-6311    | <a href="mailto:catherine.bha@comcast.net">catherine.bha@comcast.net</a>             |
| Bass, Ruth             | GA | LaFayette Housing Authority                | Ph: 706-638-2733    | <a href="mailto:rbha@windstream.net">rbha@windstream.net</a>                         |
| Boatwright, Michael    | GA | Moultrie Housing Authority                 | Ph: 229-890-5525    | <a href="mailto:miboatwright@windstream.net">miboatwright@windstream.net</a>         |
| Biggs, Shannon         | KY | Columbia Housing Authority                 | Ph: 270-384-2271 x3 | <a href="mailto:houscol@duo-county.com">houscol@duo-county.com</a>                   |
| Farrer, Bob            | MS | West Point Housing Authority               | Ph: 662-495-2008    | <a href="mailto:Bob@westpointhousing.net">Bob@westpointhousing.net</a>               |
| McKissick, Rita        | MS | Booneville Housing Authority               | Ph: 662-728-4032    | <a href="mailto:bha@avsia.com">bha@avsia.com</a>                                     |
| Spencer, Royal Ann     | MS | Clarksdale Housing Authority               | Ph: 662-624-8030    | <a href="mailto:ras_cha@bellsouth.net">ras_cha@bellsouth.net</a>                     |
| Ellis, Wendy           | NC | Farmville Housing Authority                | Ph: 252-753-5347    | <a href="mailto:fauthority@embarqmail.com">fauthority@embarqmail.com</a>             |
| Fowler, Janice         | SC | Greer Housing Authority                    | PH: 864-877-5471    | <a href="mailto:jfowler@greerha.com">jfowler@greerha.com</a>                         |
| Burnett, Edwina        | SC | York Housing Authority                     | Ph: 803-684-7359    | <a href="mailto:eburnett@yorkhousing.net">eburnett@yorkhousing.net</a>               |
| Miller, Michael        | TN | Bolivar Housing Authority                  | Ph: 731-658-3419    | <a href="mailto:bhahhs@bellsouth.net">bhahhs@bellsouth.net</a>                       |
| Page, Philip           | VA | Franklin Housing Authority                 | 757-562-0384        | <a href="mailto:ppage@frhaonline.org">ppage@frhaonline.org</a>                       |
| Porter, Lisa (Chair)   | VA | Marion Housing Authority                   | Ph: 276-378-7990    | <a href="mailto:lisa@marionrha.com">lisa@marionrha.com</a>                           |
| Stevens-Ruckman, Wanda | VA | Staunton Redevelopment & Housing Authority | Ph: 540-886-3413    | <a href="mailto:wstevens@stauntonrha.org">wstevens@stauntonrha.org</a>               |
| Meredith, Sonia        | WV | Mount Hope Housing Authority               | Ph: 304-877-6541    | <a href="mailto:Symeredith14@suddenlinkmail.com">Symeredith14@suddenlinkmail.com</a> |

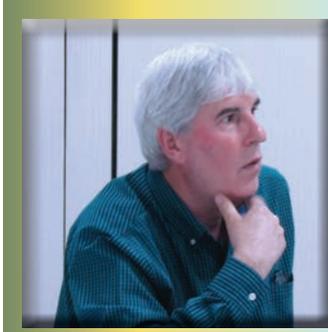
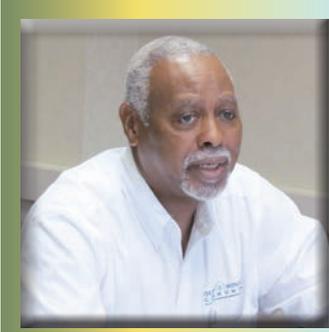


# SERC COMMITTEES | 2017-2019

| Committee                            | AL   | FL                                | GA  | KY                          | MS  | NC   | SC  | TN                                  | VA   | WV                               |
|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Admin Practices                      | Sharon Tolbert                                   | Shannon Young                     | *Douglas Freeman<br>Russell Nast                  | Shauna Boom                 | Tabitha Smith<br>Ben Washington                               |  | Angela Childers                               | Dow Harris                          | Keith Viers  | Vickie Lester                    |
| Commissioners                        | Henrietta Snipes                                 | Joseph Triolo<br>Anthony Sawyer   | J. L. Thompson<br>Charles Alexander               | Suzy Oldham<br>John Curtis  | John W. Bounds<br>Johnny Johnson                              | *John Austin<br>Dr. Dorothy Yarborough           | Jack Windell<br>Frank Alexander               | Margaret Milam                      | Harry Howe   | Albert Martine<br>LuAnne Bush    |
| CR&D                                 | *Jesse Norwood                                   | Patsy Rice                        | Beth Brown<br>Pete Waldrep                        | Tim Kitts                   | Helen Werby<br>Ron Turner                                     | Shaunte Evans<br>Alanda Jackson                  | Jamie Steen                                   | Richard McClain                     | Connie Staudinger<br>Karen Wilds                         | Joyce Wolen<br>Vickie Lester     |
| Education & Training                 | Donna Gabel                                      | Dottie Avery                      | *Becky Hartman<br>Vonda Gibson                    | Doris Wyatt                 | Brian Power<br>Phyllis Hughes                                 | Chereka Belton                                   | Anne Burroughs<br>Beverly Gasque              | Christy Billings<br>Jane Norsworthy | Carol Jones-Gilbert                                      | Wally Board                      |
| Emerging Leaders                     | Tanya Griffin                                    |                                   | Zsa Zsa Heard<br>Patricia Allen<br>Felicia Ashe   | Tim Kitts                   | Felicia Jackson   | *Sharita Oates<br>*Eliana Jones<br>Vanessa Dunn  | Tonya Crowley                                 | Sabrina Woodard                     | Stephanie Wright<br>Connie Staudinger                    |                                  |
| History/Archival                     | Debbie Rogers                                    | Patsy Rice                        | Doug Freeman                                      | Kathlynn Gray               | Bob Farrar  | *Shaunte Evans<br>Vanessa Dunn                   | Edwina Burnette<br>Elizabeth McKinney         | Jeff Green                          |  | Joyce Wolen                      |
| Housing                              | Felicia Snow                                     | Philip Grooms<br>Becky Sue Mercer | Brenda Smith<br>Debi McCade                       | Shauna Boom<br>Jeff Patrick | *Ginger Ming<br>Katina Pace                                   | James Cox  | Patrick Prince<br>Tonya Crowley               | Lisa Bonadio                        | Cindy Thomson<br>Scott Napier                            | Clifton Clark<br>Sharon Harmon   |
| Internat. Research & Global Exchange | Akinola Popoola                                  | Miguel Del Campillo               |   | Vickie Smiley               | *Judy Mellard<br>Ailrick Young                                | Tina Akers-Brown                                 | Chuck Walling                                 | Buford "Booty" Reed                 | Ron Jackson  | Tammy Miller                     |
| Legislative                          | *Mike Sweet<br>Carlen Williams<br>Quisah Riche   | Anthony Woods                     | Ann Dobson<br>Shirley Smith                       | Anita Jenkins<br>Jeff Reick | Thomas Coleman  | Angela McGill<br>Shaunte Evans<br>John W. Bounds | Randy Mathis<br>Susan Minor<br>Paul Dellinger | Buford "Booty" Reed                 | Ed Ware<br>Michael Wong                                  | Tony Bazzie                      |
| Member Services                      | Shana Demby                                      | Gail Sansbury                     | *Latonia Simmons<br>Joe Thomas                    | Bobbi Jarrett               | Alan Ingram<br>Sara Lyons                                     | Sharita Oates<br>Eliana Jones<br>Faith Thompson  | Janice Fowler<br>Preston Thomas               | Stacy Brannen                       | Philip Page  | Sonia Meredith                   |
| Prof. Development                    | Brian Williams                                   |                                   | *Buddy Oldfield<br>Marie Harris<br>Patricia Allen | Jeff Reick                  | Paula Dempsey<br>Felicia Jackson                              |  | Donna Lamer<br>Joyce Floyd                    | Marilyn Medley                      | Charlie Harrington                                       | Cindy Preast                     |
| Public Affairs/<br>SERCulator        | Beverly Barber                                   | Lisa Landers                      | *Reta Thomas<br>Ella Murphy                       | Robin Wheelodon Hoots       | Rita McKissick<br>Vicki Cole                                  | Anna McRae                                       | Pancea Lewis                                  |                                     |  | Sharon Harmon                    |
| Rental Assistance                    | Marguerit Austin<br>Karan Potter                 | LaShanda Lovette                  | Brandie Garner<br>Michael Boatwright              | Kathlynn Gray               | Ben Washington<br>Jason Spencer                               | Tina Gray  | *Elizabeth McKinney                           | Sherrie Samples                     | Scott Napier<br>Cindy Thomson                            | Donna Whitt<br>Carmen Easter     |
| Resolutions                          | *Dannie Walker                                   |                                   | Vicki Paris                                       | Tooter Castle               | Barron Caulfield  | Rosalind McClelland                              | Genelle Alexander                             | Mark Reid                           |  | Donna Whitt                      |
| Scholarship                          | Mary Mayrose<br>Beverly Barber<br>Shana Demby    | Catherine Reddick                 | Charles Alexander<br>Vickie Paris                 | Bobbie Jarrett              | Alan Ingram<br>*Kaye Judson                                   | Joy Pochis                                       | Jamie Steen<br>Connie Howard                  | Maria Catron                        | Ron Jackson  | *Madelyn Dotson<br>Carmen Easter |
| Small Agency Task Force              | Doris Richardson 250<br>Ron Jones<br>Mollie Rowe | Catherine Reddick                 | Ruth Bass 300<br>Michael Boatwright 328           | Shannon Biggs 84            | Bob Farrer 190<br>Royal Ann Spencer 299<br>Rita McKissick 160 | Wendy Ellis 174                                  | Janice Fowler 186<br>Edwina Burnette 125      | Michael Miller 119                  | *Lisa Porter 484<br>Wanda Stevens 384<br>Philip Page 315 | Sonia Meredith                   |
| Youth Leadership Development         | *Tom Wachs<br>Donald Belle<br>Courtney Coleman   |                                   | Danita Wiggins<br>Zsa Zsa Heard                   | *Abraham Williams           | Ailrick Young<br>Debra Taylor                                 | Vanessa Dunn<br>Eliana Jones                     | Brian Griswell                                |                                     | Ralph Stuckey  | Tammy Miller                     |



# SERC COMMITTEES | MEETING 2017-2019



# SERC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE | MEETING 2017-2019

The control, administration and management of the affairs, funds and property of SERC-NAHRO are vested in the executive committee consisting of twenty-two voting members. It includes: the officers of the council (president, senior vice-president, five vice-presidents with portfolio, secretary and treasurer).

Included are the three immediate past presidents of SERC-NAHRO who hold active membership in NAHRO and who still live in the council region.



One representative from each state and territory comprising SERC-NAHRO (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia).

All members of the executive committee must be individual members in good standing of SERC-NAHRO when elected and throughout their term of office.



A



*Dannie Walker  
President*

**Dannie Walker** is the executive director/CEO of Alabama's Ozark Housing Community and has over 27 years of public housing experience. He currently serves as president of AAHRA, chairperson of SERC's resolution committee, and as a member of SERC's executive committee. Dannie has previously served on SERC's housing, resolutions, legislative, awards and budget committees as well as numerous positions with AAHRA. Dannie earned a bachelor's degree from Mississippi State University and completed post graduate work at a Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

M



*Beverly Bell Barber  
Vice President*

**Beverly Bell Barber** serves as executive director of Alabama's Opp Housing Authority, and has over 25 years' experience in the housing industry. She currently serves as an AAHRA board member and on the SERCulator committee. Beverly received her bachelor's degree from Troy University in Troy, Alabama.

A



*Carolyn Sutley  
Treasurer*

**Carolyn Sutley** is the retired executive director of the Enterprise Housing Authority and a longtime member of AAHRA. Previous positions in AAHRA include, president, secretary, treasurer, convention chairperson and many committee positions. In 2016, she retired from the Enterprise HA and continues to do consulting work and accounting. Being a Grandmother and being retired are the best jobs she has ever had!

B



*Leigh Chappell  
Secretary*

**Leigh Chappell** holds bachelor's degrees in human resource management and psychology from Athens State University. She began working with the housing authority of the city of Hartselle in March, 1995. Leigh has served on the board of directors for AAHRA and as president in 2013. She also served on the board of directors and as vice-president for APHADA. She is chairperson of the small housing committee for PHADA and has chaired several committees for AAHRA.

A



*Lance Armstrong  
Past President/*

**Lance Armstrong** is the executive director of Scottsboro Housing Authority. He has served as president of AAHRA, as well as on SERC's state representative and legislative committees. He is a NAHRO certified public housing manager, a PHADA EDEP graduate, and holds a bachelor's degree from Athens State University.

L



*Felicia Snow  
Member*

**Felicia Snow** is the executive director of Alabama's Prichard Housing Authority. She has over 13 years of housing experience and currently serves as an AAHRA board member and on SERC's housing committee. Felicia holds a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Auburn University.

A



*Ron Jones  
Member*

**Ron Jones** serves as executive director of the Clanton Housing Authority, REAC High Performer 95. He is the current president of APHADA and serves on the board of directors of AAHRA. Ron is the chairperson for site selection committee and vendor committee. He holds a bachelor's degree from Valdosta State University.



*Sharon Tolbert  
Member*

**Sharon Tolbert** is CEO of the Auburn Housing Authority and also manages the Lafayette and Roanoke Housing Authorities. Sharon has over twenty-five years of experience administering various HUD-sponsored programs. She is a native of Auburn, AL and has a master's degree in business administration from Troy University. Sharon serves on various local, state, regional, and national boards and committees.



*Greg Price  
Member*

**Greg Price** is the executive director of the Greater Gadsden Housing Authority. Prior to joining the Greater Gadsden Housing Authority, Greg spent 29 years with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development providing oversight of the 146 housing authorities in Alabama. While with HUD, he served on the Alabama Policy Taskforce for over 20 years. Greg graduated from the University of Alabama in 1985 and married his wife Wendy in 1987. They have two children, Steven and Danielle.

# CAROLINA I OFFICERS

2019

**Randy Mathis** is the executive director of the Gaffney Housing Authority of South Carolina. He has 44 years of service in public housing, with 25 years as an executive director. He is the president-elect of CCHRCO. Randy received his bachelor's degree in business administration from James Madison University.



Randy Mathis  
President

**Vivian Perry** is the deputy executive director of Kinston North Carolina Housing Authority. She has 24 years' experience in the housing industry. Vivian serves as president elect of CCHRCO.



Vivian Perry  
President Elect

**Robbie D. Littlejohn** is the executive director of the Union Housing Authority in Union, South Carolina. He has 9 years' experience in public housing and currently serves as senior vice-president of CCHRCO. He earned his bachelor's degree from Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina. He is a NAHRO-certified public housing manager and a graduate of PHADA's and Rutgers University's executive director education program. Robbie is a past member of SERC's housing committee. He is married to Wanda Littlejohn, and they have two sons.



Robbie D. Littlejohn  
Senior Vice President

**Michael Dineen** is the executive director of the Lenoir Housing Authority in North Carolina and has over ten years of experience in public housing. He serves as the first vice president for CCHRCO and senior vice president of NCHADA. Michael graduated from Shorter University in Rome, GA. He is married to Jennifer and they have three children, Mattie, Lilly, and Cal.



Michael Dineen  
First Vice President

**Wendy Ellis** is the executive director of the Farmville Housing Authority in Farmville, North Carolina. She has over 18 years of service in public housing and currently serves as treasurer of the CCHRCO. Wendy serves on several SERC committees.



Wendy Ellis  
Treasurer

**Ivory Mathews** Ivory N. Mathews was named the executive director of the Housing Authority of the City of Greenville, SC in 2014. Mathews has over 20 years of affordable housing experience. Throughout her tenure as a housing professional, she has contributed to garnering over \$100 million for the preservation and new construction of affordable housing. Mathews' currently oversees a \$33 million annual budget and a housing portfolio of over 3,300. Prior to joining the Greenville Housing Authority, Mathews was deputy executive director for the Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority in Toledo, Ohio. Mathews also spent a decade at the Housing Authority of the City of Aiken (AHA), Aiken, South Carolina in various capacities and the last three years of her tenure there as chief executive officer (CEO). She holds a master of science in the foundations of education with a concentration in counseling & psychology from Troy State University-Augusta in Augusta, GA and a bachelor's of arts in sociology from Newberry College, Newberry, SC. Mathews also holds several nationally recognized certifications in the affordable housing arena. She is married to Donnie Mathews; they are the proud parents of two children, Mahogany, 13 and Dalton, 8.

**Burnetta Smith** is past president of Carolinas Council of Housing Codes and Redevelopment Officials (CCHRCO). She is the chief executive officer of the Housing Authority of the County of Wake located in Zebulon, North Carolina. A seasoned professional with nearly 36 years of rewarding experience in the fields of housing and community development, Burnetta has served on numerous committees with CCHRCO, SERC and NARHO. Burnetta holds a bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in housing management from Winston-Salem State University, and she has participated in countless continuing education and trainings in the housing and customer service fields.



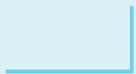
Burnetta Smith  
Past President



Ivory Mathews  
Secretary

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S





*Debbie Johnson  
President*



*Anthony E. Woods  
President Elect*



*Miguell Del Campillo  
Past President*



*Abe Singh  
V.P. Treasurer*



*Shannon Young  
V.P. Secretary*

**Debbie Johnson** is the president of FAHRO. She has 36 years' service in the housing industry within the state of Florida and she has spent the past eight years in her current position as executive director of the Pinellas County Housing Authority. Debbie earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland where she completed major coursework in mass communications, and she is a graduate of the Executive Director Education Program of PHADA and Rutgers University.

**Dr. Anthony E. Woods** is the executive director of the Palatka Housing Authority in Florida. He currently serves on SERC's legislative committee and budget committee. He has more than 23 years' experience in the industry. He and his wife Liza have six children, and he is a licensed minister.

**Miguell Del Campillo** is the executive director of the Housing Authority of the City of Miami and the immediate past president of FAHRO. Miguell holds a master's degree from Columbia University and has over 12 years' experience in public housing. He serves on the SERC/NAHRO international research and global exchange committee.

**Dr. Abe Singh** is the executive director of the Area Housing Commission in Pensacola, FL. In April 2018, he will have nine years experience in public housing and currently serves as the vice president/treasurer of FAHRO.

**Shannon Young** has been with the Seminole County Housing Authority for 12 years. She is currently the vice president-secretary of FAHRO and has served on SERC committees since 2013. She also serves on the PHADA Bollinger scholarship committee.

**Kristopher Cruzada** is the chairman of the Seminole County Housing Authority, and has been a board member of the Seminole County Housing Authority since 2005. He also serves on the commissioner's committee for NAHRO-SERC. Kristopher obtained his bachelor's degree from the University of Central Florida in accounting and then attended St. Louis University School of Law. He is a member of the Florida Bar and maintains an active legal practice in Oviedo, Florida.

**Jerome Ryans** is the executive director of the Tampa Housing Authority. He has a bachelor's degree in sociology and a master's in social work. Jerome has over 29 years' experience in public housing and served as executive director for both the Memphis, Tennessee Housing Authority and the Birmingham, Alabama Housing Authority before relocating to Florida. Jerome is a past president of FAHRO.

**Gail Sansbury** is the executive director of the Ft. Walton Beach Housing Authority. She has approximately 22 years' service in public housing. Gail served as past-president of FAHRO and also a member-at-large. She serves on SERC's member services committee.

**Ann Deibert** is the CEO of Florida's Broward County Housing Authority. She has 42 years' experience in the housing industry and serves on the board of directors for FAHRO. Ann has a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of North Carolina.

**Phillip O. Goombs** - a is FAHRO board member at large and director of finance at the West Palm Beach Housing Authority. He holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of the West Indies and PHM & SPHM certifications. Phillip has over 30 years' experience working in public housing and is a member of SERC's housing committee and a member of the Lauderhill affordable housing advisory committee.

**Pamela Davis** is the executive director of the Gainesville Housing Authority and has 28 years of service in the public housing industry. She holds a masters' degree in business administration and a bachelor's degree in social work.

**Becky-Sue Mercer** has been in the housing/customer service realm since 1995, primarily in public housing. She has experience in tax credit, Section 8, Section 202, rural development and Project Based Voucher programs in Ohio, Michigan and Florida. Mercer is the executive director at Arcadia Housing Authority; she completed the HUD Recovery Plan and the agency was removed from the "troubled list" in 2014. Mercer is a graduate of the executive director education program of PHADA and Rutgers University. Her focus has been helping people by maintaining community relations and being an active community partner for non-HUD programs. Mercer serves on several committees of the Florida Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (FAHRO) and is also active with SERC-NAHRO and PHADA.

**William Russell III** is CEO of the Sarasota Housing Authority and has over 18 years' experience in the housing industry. He is a past president and current board member of FAHRO.

**Kim Barclay** is the executive director of FAHRO and has worked in association management and the non-profit industry for twenty-five years. Her strong meeting and event planning skills bring a unique flair and creative flair to the position. She lives in Tallahassee with her husband Steve and is a home chef who enjoys boating and fishing.



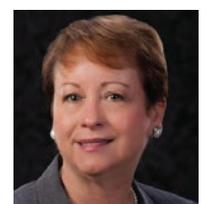
*Kristopher Cruzada  
Commissioner at Large*



*Jerome Ryans  
Member at Large*



*Gail Sansbury  
Member at Large*



*Ann Deibert  
Member at Large*



*Kim Barclay  
Executive Director*



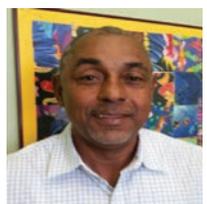
*William Russell  
Member at Large*



*Becky Sue Mercer  
Member at Large*



*Pamela Davis  
Member at Large*



*Phillip O. Goombs  
Member at Large*

# GEORGIA | OFFICERS

2018-2019

**Michael Boatwright** is the executive director for the Moultrie Housing Authority, Doerun Housing Authority and the Moultrie Leased Housing Corporation located in Moultrie, Georgia. With 16 years' experience in public housing, Michael serves as the President in GAHRA. He currently serves on SERC's annual convention committee and the small agency task force committee. He has previously served on various committees both within SERC and GAHRA. Michael is a graduate of the University of Georgia and is married with two children.



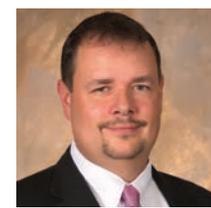
Michael Boatwright  
President

**Reta Thomas** a housing professional with 34 years of service, currently serves as the resident services coordinator for the Augusta Housing Authority in Augusta, Georgia. She is the senior vice president of housing and redevelopment for GAHRA and is serving a second term as chairperson of SERC's public affairs/SERCulator committee. Reta is an alumnus of Albany State University and Faith Bible Institute. She has one adult son and two adorable grandsons, Lathan and Dillon.



Reta Thomas  
Sr. Vice President

**Mark Watson** has served as the executive director of the Jesup Housing Authority since 2003. Prior to that, Mark was the Utilities Area Maintenance Planner for Rayonier in Jesup. He is a graduate of Armstrong Atlantic State University and holds a bachelor's degree in applied mathematics. Mark was named to the first 40 under 40 list for SERC, and he has participated in the GAHRA Emerging Leaders Program. He has served as chairman of several GAHRA committees, including both the state and national legislative committees and the annual convention committee. He has also served as vice-chairperson of the SERC strategic planning committee.



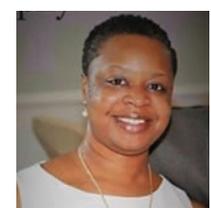
Mark Watson  
V.P. Professional Dev

**Debi McDade** is the executive director of the West Georgia Consortium, which manages the Arlington, Cuthbert, Edison, Fort Gaines and Shellman Housing Authorities as well as a Section 202 property, Southwood Village Apartments. She has 13 years' experience in public housing, six of those being as the executive director. She is the vice-president for Legislation & Regulation for GAHRA. Debi currently serves on the housing committee for SERC. Debi is married to Dennis McDade and they have two grown children and three grandchildren.



Debi McDade  
V.P. Legislation

**Latonia Simmons** serves as the Interim vice-president asset property management officer with the Albany Housing Authority in Albany, Georgia and has over 20 years of experience in public housing. She holds an associate's degree in human services and a bachelor of arts degree in social work. Latonia serves as chairperson of SERC's member services committee. She was a 2012 graduate of GAHRA's Future Leaders class and a 2015 graduate of SERC's 40 Under 40 class. Latonia is married to Andre' Simmons, and they have a son.



Latonia Simmons  
V.P. Member Services

**Brandie Garner** is the director of the Housing Choice Voucher Program for the Marietta Housing Authority. She has 17 years' public housing experience and serves as the vice president of housing and regulation of GAHRA. Brandie currently serves on the SERC rental assistance committee. She earned her bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and her master's from The University of South Florida. She and her husband Greg live in Jefferson, Georgia and have two sons, Ethan, a junior at North Greenville University and Logan, a senior at Jefferson High School.

**Marie Harris** is the executive director of the Roberta Housing Authority and has 25 years of service in public housing. She has served on the GAHRA executive committee for 23 years, as chair & co-chair of the management committee and chair & co-chair of the professional development committee, and as a member of the convention committee, U.S. government committee, and Georgia government committee. She has also represented GAHRA on the SERC professional development committee for two terms.

**Gary Erwin** is the executive director and CFO of the Conyers Housing Authority and has 12 years of public housing experience since 2006. He oversees the operations of 290 public housing units and manages an additional 116 unsubsidized affordable housing units through a nonprofit corporation of which he is the CEO. Prior to 2006, Gary was a lieutenant for the Conyers Police Department where he specialized in financial investigations and audits, and as of 2013 he rejoined Conyers Police to become their SWAT entry team leader. Gary has been married for 23 years, has one daughter at the University of Georgia School of Veterinary Medicine, and his son is a senior in high school with the intentions of continuing his education in criminal justice. Gary has been serving SERC since 2017 as the exhibitor chairman. Gary served GAHRA as the exhibitor committee chairman from 2013-2018 and is now the GAHRA treasurer.

**Russell L. Nast** is serving his 30th year as the executive director of the Housing Authority of the city of Tallapoosa. He currently serves as the past-president of GAHRA and continues to serve on many GAHRA committees. He serves on SERC's administrative practices and RAD committee. He has also served on SERC's CR&D committee. He is a NAHRO certified public housing manager and executive housing manager. His authority recently converted to the HUD multifamily program through the RAD conversion tool. He is married to Jo Nast, has two adult children and now the proud grandfather to his first granddaughter.



Russell Nast  
Past President



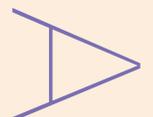
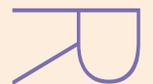
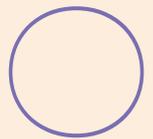
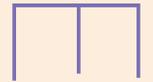
Gary Erwin  
Treasurer



Marie Harris  
Secretary



Brandie Garner  
V.P. Housing





2017-2019

# KENTUCKY I OFFICERS



Vickie Smiley  
President

**Vickie Smiley** is the executive director of the Housing Authority of Hopkinsville and currently serves as the state president. She has been in housing for 18 years. In the past, she has served as District #1 director and vice-president of the Kentucky Housing Association. She has also served on several SERC and PHADA committees. She is married to Bruce, has 2 grown children and 3 grandchildren.



Steven Parker  
V.P. Housing

**Steven Parker** is the executive director for the Housing Authority of Dawson Springs and has 10 years' experience in public housing. He currently serves as vice president of the Kentucky Housing Association (KHA) and serves on the board for the KHA Self-Insured Fund. He has also served as vice president of public housing for KHA, and has served on various SERC committees, including SERCcess, emerging leaders, and 40 under 40. He holds a bachelor's degree from Western Kentucky University in financial management/planning.



Ruth Tanner  
Secretary

**Ruth Tanner** is the executive director for the Boone County Assisted Housing Department in Burlington. She has 23 years' experience in the Housing Choice Voucher Program. She previously served as vice president of Section 8 for the Kentucky Housing Association, and is currently serving as the secretary for association.



Cheri James  
Treasurer

**Cheri James** is the executive director of the Catlettsburg Housing Authority. She has over 18 years' experience in local government with 5 years' experience in public housing. She currently serves as the treasurer for the Kentucky Housing Association. She received her bachelor's degree in finance from Morehead State University. She and her husband Trent have two sons – Zachary, a junior at Morehead State University and Nicholas, a sophomore at West Carter High School.



Jeff Rieck  
V.P. Housing

**Jeff Rieck** is the executive director for the Housing Authority of Covington. He has 10 years' experience in public and affordable housing and serves as the vice president of housing for Kentucky Housing Association. He is a Rutgers University certified EDEP, NAHRO certified PHM, and Quadel certified TaCCs. Jeff earned his bachelor's degree in business management from Southern Illinois University. Jeff serves on NAHRO's professional development committee and diversity, equity, and inclusion task force. He also serves on SERC-NAHRO's professional development and annual conference committees. He is the proud single father of a beautiful 18 year old daughter.



Susan Lillis  
V.P. Section 8

**Susan Lillis** is the executive director of the Richmond Section 8 Housing Office in Richmond, KY. She has over 30 years' experience in local government with 20 years' being at the housing office. She attended Lindsey Wilson College in Columbia, KY for two years then transferred to Eastern Kentucky University where she received her bachelor's degree in police administration with a minor in juvenile corrections. Lillis has served in multiple positions with SERC-NAHRO and with the Kentucky Housing Association board, and she is currently the vice president of Section 8 Housing. She has two daughters, Lindsey, a junior at Eastern Kentucky University, and Kalee, a freshman at Lindsey Wilson College.

**Kathy Gray-Smith** is deputy director at Cumberland Valley Regional Housing. She has 19 years' experience in public housing. Kathy has an associate's degree in business & computer communication from SECC College. She held several board positions with KHA before becoming KHA president for the 2011- 2013 term.

**Faith Cornwell-Pike** is the maintenance director for the Housing Authority of Catlettsburg. She has 5 years' experience in public housing. She currently serves as vice-president of maintenance for the Kentucky Housing Association. She serves on local revitalization and civic committees both as a public servant and as a business owner. She is both a music performer and teacher. She and her husband Steve have five children.

**Sean Cooper** is the chief financial officer of the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Housing Authority where she has 18 years' service. Sean is also a licensed certified public accountant. She has served in multiple positions with the Kentucky Housing Association board and is most recently the director at large.

**Shauna Boom** is the executive director of the Housing Authority of Owensboro. She has worked in public housing for over 20 years. She is past president of the Kentucky Housing Association and serves on the SERC administrative practices committee. Shauna is married with three children and holds a bachelor's degree in administration of justice from Southern Illinois University – Carbondale.



Kathy Gray-Smith



Faith Cornwell-Pike  
V.P. Maintenance



Sean Cooper  
Director at Large



Shauna Boom  
Past President

# MISSISSIPPI OFFICERS

2017-2019

**Ginger Ming** is the executive director of the Louisville Housing Authority where she has 15 years of service. She is currently the president of MAHRO and serves on the MHARM Insurance board. Ginger is currently serving as the chairperson of the SERC housing committee. She also serves on the housing committee for NAHRO.



Ginger Ming  
President

**Ben Washington** is the executive director of the Vicksburg Housing Authority and its non-profit Vicksburg Housing Management and Development LLC., where he has over six years' service. He is a board member for MAHRO, and serves on SERC's rental assistance committee. He has a bachelor of science in business administration from University of Southern Mississippi.



Ben Washington  
Senior Vice President

**Kaye Judson** is retired from the West Point Housing Authority. Kaye has 32 years' experience in public housing and holds a bachelor's degree in science and accounting. She currently serves as secretary-treasurer of her state association and is co-chairperson of the scholarship committee for SERC. She has served on SERC's small agency task force, scholarship, housing, professional development, and education and training committees. Kaye also serves on NAHRO's professional development and small agency task force committees.



Kaye Judson  
Secretary/Treasurer

**Paula Dempsey** is the occupancy administrator at the Louisville Housing Authority of Louisville where she has 2 years of service. She is currently serving as SERC's vice president for professional development in MAHRO and is currently serving on SERC's professional and development committee.



Paula Dempsey  
VP Professional Dev

**Alan Ingram** is the executive director for the Natchez Housing Authority. He has 36 years' experience and serves as the vice president of member services in MAHRO. He is also a member of MAHRO scholarship committee, legislative committee, the MHARM Insurance advisory board and is the editor for the MAHRO Informer. Alan is currently serving on SERC's scholarship and member services committees, and is a past state representative and former member of the executive, legislative and scholarship committees. He has a bachelor's degree in public administration from the University of Mississippi.



Alan Ingram  
VP Members Services

**Katrina Pace** is deputy executive director for Mississippi Regional Housing Authority VI (MRHA VI) in Jackson. Prior to joining MRHA VI in December 2013, she served as vice president of the allocation division of the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program for the state of Mississippi at Mississippi Home Corporation. She has over 17 years of affordable housing experience. Mrs. Pace received her bachelor's degree in economics with an accounting emphasis from Tougaloo College.

**John Bounds** is the chairperson of the board of commissioners for Mississippi's Oxford Housing Authority. He has 16 years' experience in the housing industry. John has a bachelor's degree from the University of Mississippi, and he serves as the vice president of the board of commissioners for MAHRO. He also serves on SERC's legislative and commissioners' committees.

**Tabitha Smith** is the executive director of the Tupelo Housing Authority and has 24 years of service. She currently serves as chairperson of the MAHRO administrative practices committee. She also serves as a member of MAHRO's emerging leaders committee, and on the SERC administrative practices committee.

**Brian Power** is the executive director at Mississippi Regional Housing Authority IV in Columbus, MS, and has 33 years' service in public housing. Brian serves on the board of directors and as past president of MAHRO. He has been a SERC member for 25 years and has served on numerous committees including maintenance and modernization; public affairs, legislative, education and training committee, executive committee; and as a state representative.

**Helen Werby** is the executive director of the Biloxi Housing Authority, where she began working in August, 2004 as the HOPE VI coordinator. She serves as the president of the Biloxi Community Development Corporation. She currently serves on the boards of the Mississippi Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (MAHRO), the Mississippi Housing Authority Risk Management Insurance Pool (MHARM), Gulf Coast Housing Initiative, Mercy Housing and Human Development, Mississippi Association of Affordable Housing Providers (MAAHP), and Gulf Coast Housing Partnership.

**Felicia Jackson** is the assistant executive director of the Housing Authority of the city of Laurel, MS where she has 26 years of service. She is a co-chairperson of the South Mini Group, and a member of Professional Development and Emerging Leaders for MAHRO and SERC. Felicia is a graduate of Jackson State University holding a bachelor's degree in business administration.

**Thomas Coleman** is the executive director of Tennessee Valley Regional Housing Authority of Corinth, and has over 40 years of service. He has served on the board of directors for MAHRO and on SERC's legislative committee. He is past vice president of housing (two terms) and has served on numerous other committees. He has a bachelor's degree from Mississippi State University. Thomas and his wife Mary Kathryn have two sons, Tom and Douglas, and two grandchildren.

**George Smith** is a retired executive director from MRHA V in Newton, Ms. He currently serves on the MAHRO Policy Advisory Committee

**Ailrick Young** is the executive director of the city of Laurel and has 22 years' experience. He is currently a member advisory committee of the policy committee in the Mississippi chapter, and has served as SERC past president as well as on the nominating and youth development committees. He holds a bachelor's degree from University of Southern Mississippi in criminal justice. Ailrick and his wife Sabrina have two children, Ailrick Jr. and Lauren.

**Royal Ann Spencer** is the executive director of the Clarksdale Housing Authority where she has 39 years of service. She serves on the policy advisory committee for MAHRO, and is currently serving on SERC's small agency task force committee. She has also served on the board of directors of MAHRO as well as president, senior vice-president, and vice-president for professional development. Royal Ann attended the University of Southern Mississippi.

**Judy Mellard** is the executive director of the Hattiesburg Housing Authority with 16 years of service. She currently serves as the immediate past president of MAHRO. She is the Mississippi SERC representative and has served on SERC's annual conference, professional development, housing, legislative, and budget committees. Currently, she serves as the chairperson of the SERC-NAHRO IRGE committee and serves on the SERC legislative committee. She received her bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Southern Mississippi with an entrepreneurship emphasis. Judy is certified in public housing management.



Felicia Jackson  
Director



Helen Werby  
Director



Brian Power  
Director



Tabitha Smith  
Director



John Bounds  
VP of Commissioners



Katrina Pace  
VP of Housing



Thomas Coleman  
Policy Advisory



George Smith  
Policy Advisory



Ailrick Young  
Policy Advisory



Royal Ann Spencer  
Policy Advisory



Judy Mellard  
Past President





2017-2019

# TENNESSEE | OFFICERS



Paul Dellinger  
President

**Paul Dellinger** has served as the executive director of the Cleveland Housing Authority since 2005, having previously served as the deputy director of the Allen Metropolitan Housing Authority (Lima, Ohio) for more than 12 years. He received his bachelor's degree in business administration from Bowling Green State University in 1983 and later earned his master's in business administration from Tiffin University in 2003. Paul and his wife Sheri have two sons: U.S. Army Captain Aaron P. Dellinger currently stationed at Fort Wainwright, Alaska and Cody Dellinger, a surveyor with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Louisville, KY). Paul and Sheri have two grandsons, Gentry (2yrs) and Landry (6mos) also currently stationed at Fort Wainwright, Alaska. Paul enjoys family, travel, playing guitar, and endurance mountain bike racing.



Hershel Thrasher  
Senior Vice President

**Hershel Thrasher** has been with the Shelbyville Housing Authority (SHA) for twenty three (23) years and was named executive director in 1993. Hershel has served Tennessee Association of Housing and Redevelopment Authorities as board member at large and is currently serving as vice-president of housing. Locally, Hershel is past president of the Shelbyville Breakfast Rotary Club, served as chairman of the Bedford County Housing Committee for the Governor's 3 Star Community Program, has served as vice-chair of the Shelbyville Regional Planning Commission, and currently serves as deacon at First Baptist Church in Shelbyville. Hershel and his wife, Karen, have two grown children (Lee & Leslie) and nine grandchildren.



Jo Alred  
V.P. Commissioners

**Jo Alred** is currently serving as the board chairperson for the Jackson Housing Authority in Jackson, Tennessee. Appointed to the housing board in 1998, she has served for the past 15 years. During this time she has served as co-chairperson for the commissioners committee for TAHRA and as secretary to the commissioners committee for SERC-NAHRO. She is a trainer for the commissioner certification offered through NAHRO. Before retiring in 1997, Jo had 31 years of service to the state of Tennessee as a teacher and administrator for Dyersburg City Schools, Jackson State Community College and the Tennessee Technology Center at Jackson.



Thomas Rowe  
Secretary/Treasurer

**Thomas Rowe** graduated with a B.S. in accounting from Atlantic Christian College, Thomas started his housing career with the Rocky Mount Housing Authority in 1980 as the assistant to the comptroller. He held various positions in Rocky Mount before becoming the executive director. In 1996, Thomas became the executive director of the Fort Mill Housing Authority until December 2013, when he joined the Murfreesboro Housing Authority. He was also the director of three other non-profit entities that were involved in land development for affordable housing. He is past president of SERC-NAHRO, and past president of the Carolina Council of Housing and Redevelopment Officials. Thomas has twin sons, Bryan and Henderson who are 29 years old.



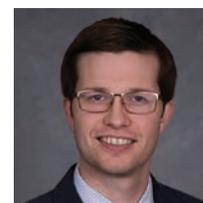
Marcia Lewis  
V.P. Housing

**Marcia Lewis** is the executive director of the Memphis Housing Authority (MHA). Marcia came to MHA from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, where she was the director of public housing for the Memphis hub. She is a vice-president for public housing for SAHMA and was just appointed to serve a three year term on the Federal Home Loan Bank's Affordable Housing Advisory Council. She has over 25 years of experience in the industry and is a graduate of Indiana University Purdue University at Indianapolis.



Maria Catron  
V.P. Professional Dev

**Maria Catron** joined Kingsport Housing & Redevelopment Authority (KHRA) in 2004 and is currently serving as KHRA's deputy director. During her tenure with KHRA, she has worked on various endeavors from HOPE VI Community Supportive Services and Choice Neighborhoods to Family Self Sufficiency/Homeownership which has given her the opportunity to gain experience in grant writing, redevelopment, asset management, and facilitating community partnerships. Maria serves on several local, regional, and state committees and boards such as the Tennessee Affordable Housing Coalition (TNAHC) and Fahe. Maria resides in Kingsport with her husband Darryl and four of their six children.



Ben Bentley  
V.P. Members Services

**Ben Bentley** is the executive director/CEO for KCDC, where he develops and implements strategic initiatives to improve affordable housing and foster development in Knoxville and Knox County. Prior to his current role, Ben served as COO of the MDHA in Nashville. He holds a master of public policy from the University of Denver and is working toward a master of real estate at Georgetown University. An Alabama native, he also holds a bachelor's degree in history from Birmingham-Southern College. Ben and his wife Kate have two children.



Jim Payne  
1st Past President

**Jim Payne** has served as executive director of Sparta Housing Authority since 2002. His is also the past president of the Sparta Jaycees, past member of the Sparta Rotary Club, served as City of Sparta alderman for fifteen years, served as vice president at large for TAHRA under the leadership of two past presidents, and has been vice president of housing for the past two years. Jim was president of TAHRA from 2015-2017. He serves on the board of trustees for Motlow State Community College. He is married to Judy Parker Payne.



Joyce Floyd  
2nd Past President

**Joyce Floyd** is the vice president of strategic planning and development for KCDC, the housing and redevelopment agency for Knoxville, TN. Her responsibilities include the development of KCDC's long range and annual organizational strategies, executive oversight of their implementation with focus on financial impact, and over sees KCDC's development and acquisition activities. She has over 30 years of experience in the affordable housing market. She also serves as chairperson for the Sparta Housing Authority board of commissioners. She has a strategic planning certification from the Performance Institute as a certified government performance manager and oversees the strategic planning activities for both SERC/NAHRO and TAHRA. She currently serves on NAHRO's Community Revitalization and Development Committee. Joyce received her bachelor's degree from Tennessee Technological University.

# VIRGINIA | OFFICERS

2017-2019

**Philip Page, Jr.** is the executive director of the Franklin Redevelopment and Housing Authority after having previously served as director of development of the Hampton Redevelopment and Housing Authority. He has 16 years of experience in affordable housing. Philip received his undergraduate degree from William & Mary and holds an MBA from Oklahoma State University. Currently, he serves on the SERC executive and small agency task force committees and is the president for VAHCDO.

**Keith Sherrill** is the grant programs officer for the Virginia Housing Development Authority. He has approximately 19 years of experience in the housing industry and is the senior vice president for VAHCDO. He has both a bachelor's and a master's degree from Virginia Tech.

**Gary Wasson** has served as the CEO and executive director of the Danville Redevelopment and Housing Authority since March 2006, though he has been working with public housing agencies since 1984. Gary has a bachelor's degree in economics from Central Washington University, Ellensburg, Washington. He currently serves as the secretary of VAHCDO.

**Lance Allen** is the deputy director/accountant for Staunton Redevelopment and Housing Authority. A talented musician, Lance is the former executive director of the P. Buckley Moss Society and is the current treasurer of VAHCDO.

**Diana Carter** is the vice-president of operations for the Bristol Redevelopment and Housing Authority with more than three decades of experience in the affordable housing industry. She is a past president of the Little Ten Housing Authorities of Southwest Virginia and a graduate of LEAD Bristol. Diana earned her bachelor's degree from King University.

**John Bohm** is a life member of VAHCDO, former CEO of NAHRO, and a previous deputy assistant secretary for HUD. He is a pioneer and supporter of small agency solutions and a creative affordable housing advocate. John holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Northeastern University. He is VAHCDO's vice-president for community development.

**Keith Viers** is the executive director for the Cumberland Plateau Regional Housing Authority and serves as VAHCDO's vice-president for Professional Development. Keith brings a wealth of management experience to the table as a former Dickenson County, Virginia Administrator. He is also the current vice-president for the Little Ten Housing Authorities of Southwest Virginia.

**Alisa Winston** is the deputy executive director for the Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority. She has more than two decades of experience in housing and community development having worked in Suffolk, Chesapeake, and Newport News. Alisa holds a master's degree in urban planning from Norfolk State University and a bachelor's degree in political science from Hampton University. She serves on the board of directors for the Portsmouth Area Resources Coalition, Inc. and as the chairperson of housing for the Portsmouth NAACP. She is the vice-president for program services for VAHCDO.

**Lisa Porter** is the executive director/CEO of the Bristol Redevelopment and Housing Authority. She has nearly three decades of experience in affordable housing having worked for Cumberland Plateau, Marion and Yuma, AZ. Lisa is the Chairperson of SERC's small agency task force and is a member of the resolutions and executive committees. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia's College at Wise, is a past president of the Little Ten Housing Authorities of Southwest Virginia and is the past president of VAHCDO.

**Ed Ware** is the director of communications & government relations for the Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority and serves on SERC's legislative committee. Ed is highly skilled in marketing, public relations, and public policy advocacy with a background utilizing these skills for subsidiaries of Fortune 500 firms. He holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of South Carolina and is VAHCDO's vice-president for public policy.

**VP for Housing:** VACANT

**Marcus Williamson** is the housing programs administrator for the Virginia Beach Department of Housing and Neighborhood Preservation. He has more than 16 years of housing experience having previously been employed by the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority in Ohio. Marcus holds a bachelor of science degree from Franklin University, and he is the VAHCDO vice-president at-large.



Phillip Page  
President



Keith Sherrill  
Senior Vice President



Gary Wasson  
Secretary



Lance Allen  
Treasurer



Diana Carter  
V.P. Communications/Membership



Marcus Williamson  
V.P. at-Large



Alisa Winston  
V.P. Program Services



Keith Viers  
V.P. Professional Dev



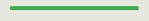
John Bohm  
V.P. Community Dev



Lisa Porter  
Past President



Ed Ware  
V.P. Public Policy





2017-2019

# WEST VIRGINIA | OFFICERS

WEST VIRGINIA



Jeff Knight  
President

**Jeff Knight** is the chief operations officer of the Charleston-Kanawha Housing Authority, and has 21 years' experience in public housing. He is the president of WVAHA, and serves on SERC's legislative and RAD committees. Jeff received his bachelor's degree from the University of Charleston and his master's from the Ohio State University.

**Vickie Lester** is the executive director of Huntington WV Housing Authority and president of the Housing Development Corporation. She has over 22 years' experience in public housing. She is the immediate past president of WV Association of Housing Agencies. She has an A.B.A in accounting and an R.B.A. in business administration from Marshall University. She is a graduate of the PHADA/Rutgers Executive Director Education Program. She holds a C11P certification for the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program. She serves on committees with SERC-NAHRO, NAHRO and is on the PHADA board of trustees.



Vickie Lester  
Past President

**Pauline Sturgill** was hired in 2011 as the Williamson Housing Authority's executive director. She has 40 years of professional experience in rural community capacity building and leadership development. Sturgill holds a master's degree in political science from Marshall University, and is a graduate of the WVU Community Development Institute, the WV Higher Education Chancellor's Institute, the Diversity Leadership Academy of West Virginia, the REAL Entrepreneurship Institute, Leadership Plenty, the Grantsmanship Center, and the National Service Leadership Institute. Pauline lives with her husband of 41 years in Mingo County, on her family's ridgetop farm, which dates back to the mid-1800's.

**Sharon Harmon** is employed as the accountant of Bluefield Housing Authority after serving 35 years with Beckley Housing Authority in various positions, most recently as Executive Director. Sharon is a graduate of Concord University with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with concentrations in Management and Accounting. She is a certified Public Housing Manager and successfully completed PHADA's Executive Director Education Program in January 2011.



Pauline Sturgill  
Vice President

**Tammy Miller** is the deputy director/director of finance of the Wheeling Housing Authority. She has ten years of public housing experience and serves as secretary of WVAHA. Tammy currently serves on SERC's youth leadership development and IRGE committees, as well as PHADA's legislative committee. She earned her bachelor's degree from West Liberty University and is a 2016 graduate of PHADA's Executive Director Education Program. She and her husband have an adult son, a daughter in law and two grandchildren. Tammy resides in Valley Grove, West Virginia.

**LuAnne H. Bush** is the vice-chairman of West Virginia's Clarksburg-Harrison Regional Housing Authority. She has a total of 14 years' experience with public housing in West Virginia and is active in her state association, where she currently serves as chairman of the commissioners' committee.



Sharon Harmon  
Treasurer

**Karen C. Jacobson** is the executive director of the Randolph County Housing Authority (RCHA), where she has served since 2001. Ms. Jacobson also serves as part-time loan fund manager of Woodlands Community Lenders (WCL), a CDFI she co-founded in 2012. WCL provides loans and technical assistance to small businesses that need gap financing to start or expand in a three-county target area. She currently serves as the chairperson of the board of the West Virginia Affordable Housing Trust Fund, and as chairperson of the board of Fahe, a regional membership group on a mission to eliminate persistent poverty in Appalachia. She earned her MBA from Boston University in 1987. In 2013, she graduated from Achieving Excellence, an executive education program of the JFK School of Government at Harvard University.

**Christal Crouso** is the executive director of the Fairmont-Morgantown Housing Authority. She has been involved in the development of a multi-faceted home-ownership center which includes a full cycle lending, mortgage business, housing development and rehabilitation services, housing counseling program and a community development program called Morgantown Homecoming. Christal serves on the board of directors of Fahe, and the board of directors for the Community Housing Action Partnership. She serves on the loan committee for CommunityWorks in West Virginia. Christal lives in Fairmont with her husband Denny and her two boys Jacob and Jackson.



Tammy Miller  
Secretary

**Belinda Harness**, executive director of the Housing Authority of Mingo County. She graduated with a bachelors' degree from Marshall University in business accounting. She has 24 years with the Housing Authority of Mingo County doing a variety of positions that ended with her moving to the Executive Director. She is a board member of Community Works of West Virginia, volunteers throughout the community and church. Belinda has lived in Delbarton West Virginia her entire life where she raises her three daughters.



LuAnne Bush  
V.P. Commissioners



Karen Jacobson  
Board Member



Christal Crouso  
Board Member



Belinda Harness  
Board Member

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- ◆ Lead-Based Paint Risk Assessments
- ◆ Salary Comparability Studies
- ◆ Section 504 Needs Assessments of Transition Plans
- ◆ Utility Allowances Studies and Reviews for Public Housing

# SERC, RC Cola and MoonPies: a southern tradition

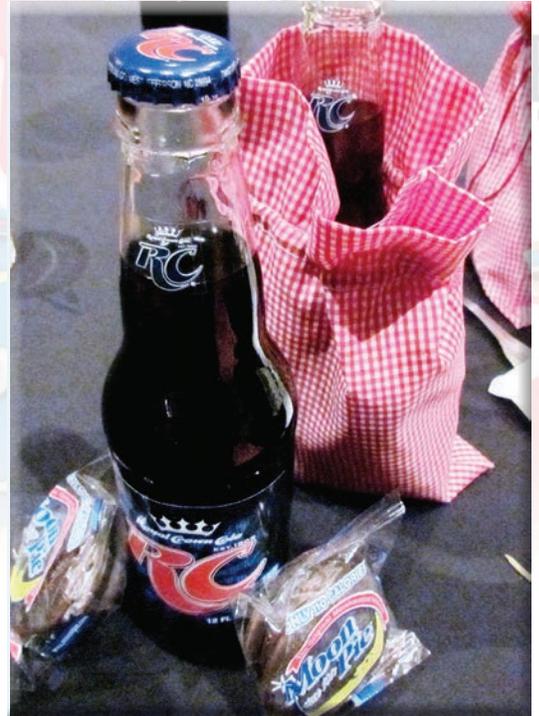
Excerpt from *Ideal Living Publication*, 2013

*"Give me a RC Cola and a MoonPie  
I'm playin' Maple on the hill  
I'll catch that freight train on the blind  
Leave my corn down at the mill  
'Cause I sold my calf for a dollar and half  
So Brother, I can pay the bill  
Give me a RC Cola and a MoonPie"*

This delicious duo was the inspiration behind Bill Lister's country tune "A RC Cola and a MoonPie" in the 1950s, but the pair had been together long before then. In the 1930s, they were filling the bellies of coal miners and laborers alike, earning the nickname "working man's lunch." It was a lot of snack for a little money, which was ideal for the working class. In fact, you could get a MoonPie and a RC Cola for just five cents each! Before the two became famous, where exactly did these cultural icons get their start?

The MoonPie was born in 1917 at the Chattanooga Bakery in Chattanooga, Tennessee. At its start, the bakery, founded in 1902, sold about 150 products. Some of the products we still recognize today, like Vanilla Wafers and Graham Crackers. Mr. Earl Mitchell, Sr.,

*Continued on next page*



# SERC Spring Meetings

## Reception



a bakery salesman, got the idea for the MoonPie after he visited a company store that catered to coal miners. Not always having time for lunch, a snack that was filling would do the trick for the hard-working miners. When Mr. Mitchell asked how big the miners wanted the snack to be, one held up his hands, framing the moon. With the size in mind, all that was left was the recipe. After witnessing some of the factory workers dipping graham crackers into marshmallow, Mr. Mitchell thought it would be even better to add another cracker, and then coat the whole thing in chocolate.



This combination was an immediate hit, and the MoonPie quickly became a regular item for the bakery, as well as found a soft spot in the hearts of the people in the south.



During WWII, the Chattanooga Bakery sent thousands of MoonPies to our troops, a tradition that still carries on today. As the years have gone on and other variations of the MoonPie have been created—the Double Decker was made in the 1960s to help prevent the snack from slipping through the cracks in the vending machine. Between the 1980s and 90s, the Mini MoonPie was born, a response to mothers complaining that the Original and Double Decker MoonPies were spoiling their children's dinners. Nothing beats the original MoonPie. It ties you to the past, the brand having been around the South for generations. When you walk into a southern country store and see one, it is hard not to become nostalgic or excited. There is just something about a MoonPie.



Much like the RC Cola and MoonPie, the SERC-NAHRO Organization is rich in history. When something works, you don't change it; you improve it, and make it even

*Continued on next page*



# SERC Spring Meetings

## Committees

more available to people who can't get enough of a good thing. Creating a safe and secure home in which people can live is the ultimate goal of the organization.

Year after year, our organization is forced to make changes without compromising the basic need of affordable housing. This group is always open-minded to adjusting in a world of fast-paced technological changes and social media.

*Continued on next page*



# SERC Spring Meetings

## Hot Topics



Our productive and dedicated committees strive to achieve their goals. We learn from each other how to improve and produce a high quality product.

The group met for the Spring Workshop in Chattanooga, TN. The short 2-day meeting gave members the opportunity to share ideas and make plans for the future. President Gilbert also offered a session conducted by Larry Walker from Knoxville TN. Mr. Walker is with the Organizational Management Group and spoke on hot topics in employment law.



The workshop was very well-attended, so well so, that some committees had to meet in the hotel lounge area. However, lack of space did not deter members from creating agendas and plans to move forward towards 2020. Just like MoonPies and RC Colas, the SERC-NAHRO team plans to be around for a long time, becoming a southern tradition by providing our clients a lot of housing at an affordable price.



## AN OPEN LETTER TO CONGRESS – APRIL 2019



Mike Sweet

*Note: The Position Paper includes supplemental discussion of specific areas of HUD programming to include Public Housing, Resident Self-Sufficiency, Housing Re-positioning, Housing Choice Vouchers, and Housing Production. See the link (<https://www.serc-nahro.org/serc-2019-legislative-position-paper/>) at the SERC-NAHRO website for the full text of the paper.*

The Southeastern Regional Council of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (SERC-NAHRO) is an association of knowledgeable and dedicated housing and community development professionals. Organized over 78 years ago, SERC-NAHRO consists of more than 700 agency members that serve over a half million low income households in ten southeastern states (Alabama, Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Mississippi, West Virginia, Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee). Through this Open Letter, SERC-NAHRO seeks continuing support and a commitment by Congress to sufficiently fund HUD programs and/or amend rules and regulations in need of reform. SERC-NAHRO members are unified in their efforts to house America's poor and we urge Congress to see that these efforts are successful.

Throughout the United States, affordable housing agencies have been highly effective in providing critical housing resources through their federally funded Public Housing, Rental Voucher Programs, Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) Program, and Multifamily Programs yet many unmet needs remain. Market demands over the past several years have shifted, causing a decrease in homeowners and an increase in renters, which has resulted in an overall reduction in rental unit availability. HUD's own Report on Worst Case Housing Needs (issued 8/2017) reflects that households meeting worst case criteria have steadily increased by 41% since 2007 with only one in four low-income families with children having access to rental assistance. Demand continues to grow for affordable rental housing while the nation's stock of public housing units is dwindling. Based on HUD's Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) scoring system, 84,000 public housing units are in need of immediate investment to avoid habitability issues. Past failure to re-invest in the aging public housing stock has already resulted in the loss of nearly 100,000 units since 2005. Underfunding of multiple HUD programs over the past decade has resulted in housing authorities being unable to meet the housing needs of their communities. Fortunately, the 2018 and 2019 T-HUD Appropriations Bill have seen modest

increases in funding for nearly all affordable housing programs. Regrettably, it appears that the President is proposing significant cuts to these programs in his FY 2020 Budget. It is imperative that Congress continue to support adequate funding of Affordable Housing.

With the current state of the national deficit, it is likely that federal funding levels necessary to preserve and operate public housing into the foreseeable future will be challenging to maintain. Programs that were in the not so distant past considered untouchable, such as Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME), are repeatedly considered for termination in Presidential budgets. Legislative efforts to provide deregulation have met with some success within the past few years, however, Congressional attempts to provide significant regulatory relief have been elusive. If Congress intends to continue down the path of disinvestment in Public Housing, then bold and swift regulatory reform is imperative. Housing Authorities must have more flexibility to sustain operations and preserve housing stock.

SERC-NAHRO has established several priorities that are critical to effective future operation of the Public Housing Programs. These priorities are as follows –

- **Reforms focused on providing flexibility and reducing or eliminating burdensome regulation.**
- **Suitable and sustained funding of all Public Housing Programs that will allow Housing Authorities to satisfy the mission as established by the Department of Housing & Urban Development.**
- **Support and expansion of Housing Development/Re-development programs to address the growing need for affordable housing.**

It is the position of SERC-NAHRO that failure to address these key issues will result in a detrimental decline in our public housing resident's quality of life and their opportunity to reach self-sufficiency.

SERC-NAHRO members understand Congress' financial concerns and we support efforts to responsibly reduce federal spending. However, we believe that safe, decent and affordable housing is essential to the well-being of all our citizens and that reductions in spending levels should not be directed at vital domestic programs. We urge Congress to do all it can to ensure that housing, one of the most basic and fundamental needs, is available to our nation's most vulnerable families, including our elderly citizens, disabled citizens and our veterans.

Each of the housing programs has unique characteristics and challenges. For this reason, SERC-NAHRO has provided supplemental documents regarding the Public Housing Program, Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD), Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8), and Housing Production Programs. Supplemental documents can be provided upon request.

**[chick604@bellsouth.net](mailto:chick604@bellsouth.net)**

# Need a group medical plan? We've got you covered!

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# ALABAMA NEWS



## AAHRA- IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AAHRA attended the NAHRO 2019 Washington/Legislative Conference April 7-9. The conference was held at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel, Arlington, Virginia.

CONNECT TO PURPOSE was the conference theme. Attending this years conference and visit to Capitol Hill were:

**Matthew McClammy**, executive director, Opelika Housing Authority

**Henrietta Snipes**, Board Chair, Opelika Housing Authority (AL Chair of the Commissioners Committee, SERC-NAHRO VP of Commissioners, NAHRO VP of Commissioners)

**Michael Sweet**, executive director, Chickasaw Housing Authority (AL Chair of the Legislative Committee, SERC-NAHRO Chair of the Legislative Committee, 2018 NAHRO Mary K. Nenno Award Recipient)

**Dannie Walker**, Executive Director/CEO, Ozark Housing Community (AAHRA President, SERC-NAHRO Chair of the Resolutions Committee.



## Sylacauga—first annual Fair Housing Symposium

The Sylacauga Housing Authority (SHA) hosted the first annual Fair Housing Symposium. The symposium was held at the Sylacauga City Schools' Board of Education office. The symposium provided valuable dialogue regarding fair housing, civil rights, and equal opportunity.

Katie Bibbee, SHA public affairs officer, presented a brief history of fair housing practices and the Fair Housing Act. SHA Chief Housing Officer Daniell Womack presented "What fair housing means to me", a powerful personal story touching on the impact of fair housing on her life. The symposium concluded with Steven Hoyt, SHA planning and development officer, hosting a brief question and answer session.

The Sylacauga Housing Authority proudly presented attendees with a copy of *The Color of Law*, in order to continue the conversation surrounding fair housing long after the symposium. It proved to be an enriching morning of education, sharing, and fellowship.



In January 2019, the Sylacauga Housing Authority welcomed over 170 guests to the first annual Transformational Leadership Luncheon. Dr. Bret Walters, PhD presented the keynote address and challenged guests to push themselves beyond their comfort zone to be impactful leaders.

The Sylacauga Housing Authority also debuted a new logo and launched a new website. These updates helped solidify the complete rebranding the housing authority has undergone over the past year. The Sylacauga Housing Authority is living up to their motto and becoming the #HousingAuthorityofTomorrow.

The 2020 Transformational Leadership Luncheon will be held in late January. Tickets will go on sale early this fall.



## SHA second annual community Easter egg hunt



The Sylacauga Housing Authority (SHA) recently hosted the second annual community Easter egg hunt. Over 200 people were able to participate in the festivities. There were a variety of activities including face painting, sack races, pictures with the Easter Bunny, and a massive egg hunt. Adults enjoyed the delicious food prepared by SHA staff members and the cake walk.

This event would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of the SHA staff. Through their collaboration, this event went above and beyond. Their diligence and care ensured that every detail of the day was perfect. Members of the SHA team volunteered in every capacity and donated many of the supplies needed for the event. We are so thankful for the #SHAFamily doing what they do best, serving their community.

We would also like to thank all the businesses and organizations that supported this year's event. Church of the Highlands generously provided much needed volunteers, and Home Depot donated all the materials and stencils to make our beautiful photo cut outs. The following companies and organizations generously supported the event through donations: Home Depot, Church of the Highlands, Giddens Plumbing, Vansandt Hardware, NAPA, AirGas, Sylacauga Glass, Payne Pest Control, Sylacauga Alliance for Family Enhancement (SAFE), Little Caesars, Jacks, Grace Memorial Chapel, Service Printing, the Sylacauga Chamber of Commerce, the Sylacauga Police Department, and the Sylacauga Housing Authority.

## Bowling Green– Mobile grocery serves residents

The location surrounding the Housing Authority of Bowling Green's main developments, Gordon Avenue/Summit View are currently listed as a food desert by the USDA. The USDA definition of a food desert is vapid of fresh fruit, vegetables, and other helpful whole foods, usually found in impoverished areas. We are working with other partner organizations in the community to help alleviate this problem. The mobile grocery store will make stops in impoverished neighborhoods so families can purchase the necessary staples they need.

Many individuals in these areas have transportation barriers or limited access via public transportation to a grocery store. Public transportation is not easy to navigate and can take upwards to 3 hours to get to and from a grocery store that is four miles from our main development. The cost for one person is four dollars, and you can only purchase items you can carry as the bus offers no storage for groceries.

Warren County Public Schools donated a 34 passenger bus. We refurbished the bus with shelves, generator, cooler, freezer, air conditioning, etc. We had the bus wrapped so it is easily recognizable. A survey of approximately 90 individuals told us that residents were very excited about the possibility of a mobile grocery store. The survey showed that approximately 52% would use the truck 2-3 times per week.

The bus runs 5 days per week from 9-2 daily. We are currently making 18 stops in low income neighborhoods and apartment complexes. The Mobile Grocery is a way of bringing fresh produce and affordable groceries into neighborhoods without a physical brick and mortar business. It has been a great asset to the community of Bowling Green serving over 140 customers.



## Greensboro– Local sorority helps GHA residents celebrate the holidays

For the second year in a row, children and parents celebrated National Read Across America Day at Greensboro Housing Authority (GHA). This day was established in 1997, on Dr. Seuss' birthday, by the National Education Association (NEA) as a day to celebrate awareness, and motivation for children across the country about the joys and benefits of reading. Fifty-eight parents and children attended this event held at Claremont Courts.

The celebration emphasized the fun and significance of reading through stations featuring reading games, a photo booth, prizes, and a book giveaway. Dr. Seuss' most famous, and perhaps the most favorite character, the Cat in the Hat, stopped by to take pictures.

GHA's AmeriCorps Project R.E.A.D. (Reading Early Advances Development) team organized the event to provide a fun experience for parents and children. Additionally, this occasion also served as a means to promote the Project R.E.A.D. program and engage more children in igniting excitement and passion for reading. The Project R.E.A.D. program is made possible through an AmeriCorps grant from the North Carolina Commission of Volunteerism and Community Service increasing the number of Guilford County children reading by third grade.



## Goldsboro (HACG)–adds new resident programs

**Math Masters**–The Housing Authority of the City of Goldsboro (HACG) recently kicked off their new Math Masters tutoring program in West Haven! Now little neighborhood scholars have an opportunity to keep learning after school.

**Snack & chat**–Recognizing that teens have different needs, interests, and a desire for greater independence as they approach adulthood, Goldsboro youth are invited to participate in monthly gatherings. Seventh through twelfth graders enjoy a snack while socializing with their peers and HACG Scholar staff in a relaxed community space.

**Basic driving class**–Recently, HACG staff learned that some adult residents were interested in learning how to drive. Reaching out to the local community, HACG soon began a partnership with A+ Driving School to get residents comfortable behind the wheel and ready to obtain their drivers' licenses. This class is offered monthly and has been a tremendous success! Kai Torney is our first resident to attend all the mandatory in-class sessions and is participating in some on the road training, making him the first 'student driver' of the program!



## Housing Authority of Florence– 2nd annual Historically Black Colleges and Universities Fair

The Housing Authority of Florence residents and students from the community who were interested in college, especially historically black colleges and universities attended a college fair on February 23. Students attending the free event were between 15-18 years old.

Throughout the fair, we had several drawings for prizes, and the students in attendance received the book 'I Aint't Going to College' by Marlo Prioleau. Representatives from Morris College, Benedict College and Claflin University, along with Author/Motivational Speaker Marlo Prioleau, provided information and resources during this special event. One of the resident high school seniors in attendance was accepted on the spot to Benedict College in Columbia, SC!

The primary goal of the fair was to help residents learn more about historically black colleges and universities and to clear up some misconceptions about these institutions. The event was successful in providing useful information and resources to the young people in their search for higher education. Students were introduced to the culture and academic opportunities available at historically black colleges and universities.



## GAHRA—Spring Workshop

“Taking Charge of Change” was the theme for the Georgia Association of Housing and Redevelopment Authorities’ (GAHRA) Spring Workshop, held May 19-21, at the Jekyll Island Conference Center. Activities began Sunday evening with a very successful welcome reception sponsored by the Georgia Power Company. The opening session was held Monday morning, and GAHRA was delighted to have the senior vice president of NAHRO, Sunny Shaw. She presented her goals for the future as NAHRO’s next president. Richelle Patton, Collaborative Housing Solutions, provided information about HUD’s repositioning goals and how they may affect housing. The 2019 Future Leaders class was also introduced, and scholarships totaling \$36,250.00 were awarded.

Over 300 members and guests participated in a variety of training sessions and activities during the two-day workshop.



President Boatwright, Sunny Shaw, Richelle Patton, Reta Thomas

## GAHRA—Scholarships

The Georgia Association of Housing and Redevelopment Authorities (GAHRA) was recently pleased to present \$ 36,250.00 in scholarships to residents of public and assisted housing in the state of Georgia. The awards were made at the Scholarship Awards Luncheon at GAHRA’s Spring Workshop.

Awards were presented in academic and vocational categories to both adult and high school scholarship winners. Six applications were submitted for the adult scholarships. The winners will be pursuing careers in pharmacy, health care, cosmetology, legal services and education.

Thirteen applications were received for the high school awards. All of the candidates exhibited tremendous qualities including outstanding grade point averages and various extra-curricular activities. Many of them worked after-school jobs but still maintained their excellent academic standing.

Both adult and high school applicants, residing in GAHRA properties or receiving assistance from a GAHRA member agency, were eligible to apply for scholarship funding. The scholarship funds awarded to each winner will be forwarded, for their benefit, to their chosen academic institution.

The GAHRA scholarship committee is chaired by Harden A. Oldfield from Augusta and the vice chairperson is Danita Wiggins from Albany. Members include John Marria from Cairo, Bruce Herring from Elberton, Angela Strickland from Brunswick, Kevin Price from Wrightsville, Ella Murphy from Marietta, Ann Dobson from Jasper, Vickie Paris from Dallas, Joe Thomas from Camilla and Charles Alexander from Columbus.

Assisting with the presentation of the awards were GAHRA President Michael Boatwright from Moultrie and NAHRO Senior Vice President Sunny Shaw from Pocatello, Idaho.



2019 High School and committee.



Adults and committee.

## ADULT SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

### Vocational/Technical

Alisha Parker, McDonough \$ 2,000  
ZyDaja Beckum, Dallas \$ 2,500

### Academic

Crystal Leary, Warner Robins \$ 1,000  
Anna Jackson, Northwest Georgia \$ 1,500  
Latasha Harmon, Marietta \$ 2,000  
Jessica Ushry, Dekalb \$ 2,500

### High school scholarship winners

William Redding, Cordele \$ 5,000  
Mario Bemby, Decatur \$ 4,000 continuing, paid \$1,000 per year  
Dionte Doreus, Dallas \$ 4,000 continuing, paid \$1,000 per year  
Rylee Sharpton, Tallapoosa \$ 2,500  
Mackenzie Powell, Moultrie \$ 2,500  
Shunterria Nelson, Northwest Georgia \$ 1,500  
Keimondre Dixon, Jesup \$ 1,000  
Ayana Williams, Conyers \$ 750  
Lirric Fenderson, Reidsville \$ 750  
Alexis Jones, Albany \$ 750  
Savannah Polley, Gainesville \$ 750  
Zahara-London smith, Atlanta \$ 750



GAHRA future leaders class.

## GAHRA FUTURE LEADERS

Brandolynn Marengo, Carrollton Housing Authority  
Ashley Wynn, Tifton Housing Authority  
Constance Graham, Atlanta Housing Authority  
Kerry Smith, Dublin Housing Authority  
Melanie Nunley, Tifton Housing Authority  
Keri Pethicke, Lafayette Housing Authority  
Darrick Carr, Atlanta Housing Authority  
Kenneth Childs, Thomaston Housing Authority  
Candace Atkinson, Newnan Housing Authority



# ..... KENTUCKY NEWS .....

## Lexington–Glen Arvin Townhomes increasing affordable housing options utilizing non-federal funds

The Lexington Home Ownership Commission (LHOC) began construction of the Glen Arvin Townhomes development in September, 2017 utilizing its non-federal dollars. These units were ready for occupancy in November, 2018. This development of 11 units of affordable housing is comprised of six one-bedroom and five two-bedroom units.

With off-street parking, the development's aesthetically pleasing exterior facade consists of brick and fibred cement lap siding. Each unit has dedicated front and rear entrances, large porches, modern interior finishes, washer-dryer hookups, high-efficiency light fixtures, Energy-Star rated appliances, insulated windows and high efficiency hvac units and water heaters.

Provision for affordable housing continues to be an important goal of the LHA and the community at large. This medium-density land use development strikes a balance of offering a number of affordable housing units without negatively impacting the site or neighborhood. This strategically planned infill redevelopment expanded affordable and accessible housing choices within the community.



## Kentucky Housing Association–annual poster contest in February

### ELEMENTARY

- 1st Place – Kamryn Noel (Dry Ridge)
- 2nd Place - Skylar Covington (Henderson)
- 3rd Place - Amiyah Arnett (Henderson)

### MIDDLE SCHOOL

- 1st Place – Ana Robards (Henderson)
- 2nd Place - Kalie Brown (Henderson)
- 3rd Place - Samantha Wiles (Henderson)

### HIGH SCHOOL

- 1st Place – Tiara Kelly (Catlettsburg)



**THANKS TO ALL THE CHILDREN WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE KHA POSTER CONTEST!**

Kentucky and Tennessee have teamed up to co-host a combined annual conference September 17-20, in the beautiful Smoky Mountains (Gatlinburg).

**MAHRO- IN WASHINGTON, D.C.**



MAHRO attended the NAHRO 2019 Washington/Legislative Conference April 7. The conference was held at the Crystal Gateway Marriot Hotel, Arlington, Virginia.

Attending this years conference and visit to Capitol Hill were: (left to right) **Gregory Partman, Jason Spencer, Ailrick Young, George Barnes, Senator Roger Wicker, Ben Washington, Judy Mellard, Thomas Coleman, Robert Finch, Janice Isaac, and John Bounds.**

**Laurel Housing Authority- Youth take part in teen summit**

Laurel Housing Authority young people attended the Kuntry Kidz Teen Summit in Hattiesburg on the campus of the University of Southern Mississippi. LHA ROSS Coordinator Semeka Brown, traveled with four teens to the event. "The importance of the summit is to gain insight from a variety of speakers on how they gained success on their journey," Brown said. "The participants had opportunities to meet young people from all around and engage in breakout sessions. The summit prepares them for achievements in every aspect of life." The teens also toured the USM campus.



**Everything must GO!**

Laurel Housing Authority residents got the chance to benefit from others.

The housing authority conducted its "Everything Must Go" event on Friday, March 8, in the parking lot of Beacon Homes. The housing authority received a surplus of items donated for rummaging. Residents were allowed to come and take whatever they were able to carry with them. Everything was free to the residents of the housing authority.



**MAHRO- NORTH MINI-GROUP MEETING**

Eleven members of MAHRO's north mini group met on Tuesday, April 16, at the Oxford Housing Authority. During the meeting, topics of discussion included SERC's upcoming annual conference and the scholarship baskets from each mini group. Miss Elisabeth Jones with the Department of Labor's Job Corps and Mr. Mike Salazar, executive director of the Finch-Henry Job Corps center in Batesville, addressed our group. Mr. Salazar explained educational opportunities for our residents and other youth who have dropped out of school and need job skill training. Admission is at no cost, and participants have up to two years to complete the program. Participants in the program must fall within the DHS income limits and must be between the ages of 16-24. The center provides housing, food and clothing while attending. The mini-group will be conducting its next meeting July 23, on the Job Corps campus in Batesville where they will tour the training facility.



**TAHRA- IN WASHINGTON, D.C.**



TAHRA attended the NAHRO 2019 Washington/Legislative Conference April 7-9. The conference was held at the Crystal Gateway Marriot Hotel, Arlington, Virginia. CONNECT TO PURPOSE was the conference theme. Attending this year's conference and visit to Capitol Hill were: (front row) **Senator Lamar Alexander, Jen Porter Ross, Susan Minor, Joyce Floyd, Jan Pearsol, Steve Burchett, Senator Marsha Blackburn;** and back row: **Scott Black, Darlene Morton, Derwin Jackson, Sean Gilbert, Thomas Rowe, Paul Dellinger, Mark Reid, Mike and Lori A. Miller.**

**KCDC—breaks ground on final phase of Five Points revitalization**

*Celebration marks construction launch for 82-unit affordable housing community*

On May 22, Knoxville's Community Development Corporation (KCDC), along with business and community leaders and members of the Five Points community, officially broke ground on Five Points Phase Four, an affordable housing complex to be built at the intersection of Kenner Avenue and McConnell Street. Completion of Phase Four will mark realization of the Five Points Master Plan.

Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA), Red Stone Equity Partners, Home Federal Bank of Tennessee, elected officials, design and construction partners, and stakeholders joined the celebration for the upcoming affordable housing community. Construction is expected to be completed in summer 2020.

"The remarkable transformation underway at Five Points is a result of collaboration," KCDC Executive Director and CEO Ben Bentley said. "The city of Knoxville, HUD, THDA and other stakeholders share our commitment to creating revitalized affordable housing communities where families can thrive."

Five Points Phase Four includes 31 buildings with a total of 82 units ranging from one to five bedrooms. The community will include a playground, open green space and a computer room. The structures in Phase Four include features adhering to Enterprise Green Communities Certification criteria. The certification is earned through sustainable construction, healthy living environment, emphasis on energy efficiency and conservation of resources.

Construction cost for Five Points Phase Four is approximately \$14.5 million and will be funded primarily through \$11 million in low-income housing tax credits from THDA. Red Stone Equity Partners serves as equity partner, and Home Federal Bank of Tennessee is the mortgage lender.



## VAHDCO— IN WASHINGTON, D.C.



VAHDCO attended the NAHRO 2019 Washington/Legislative Conference April 7-9. The conference was held at the Crystal Gateway Marriot Hotel, Arlington, Virginia. CONNECT TO PURPOSE was the conference theme. Attending this year's conference and visit to Capitol Hill were VAHDCO and VHA partner, the Alliance Group.

John Bohm (far left), Randy Moore with the Virginia Housing Alliance (second from right). Others with the Alliance group attended as well. VAHDCO and VHA partner on this event each year to represent Virginia.

Others who attended the visit to Capitol Hill were Philip Page, Michael Wong, and Ed Ware (not pictured).

## Bristol—Congressman Griffith visits BRHA

U. S. Rep. Morgan Griffith (R-Salem) recently visited Bristol Redevelopment and Housing Authority (BRHA), and he spent about an hour meeting with officials from BRHA, Wise County Redevelopment and Housing Authority, and the Bristol city manager. The meeting was followed by a brief tour of The Village at Oakview, BRHA's newest mixed finance development. Among the issues they discussed were portability, the opioid crisis, and the repositioning of public housing. Congressman Griffith is interested in working with the housing authorities in his district to find unique solutions to the challenges facing the industry. BRHA is the second-oldest housing authority in the commonwealth and has an aged housing stock. This presents a dilemma for local officials and BRHA staff as Bristol also has a high poverty rate and the need to attract new opportunities for economic development.



Lisa Porter and Congressman Griffith discussed issues during a brief tour of The Village at Oakview.



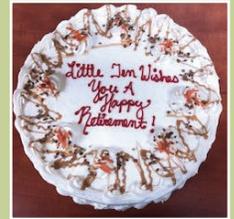
U.S. Rep. Morgan Griffith (R-Salem) met with Lisa Porter, BRHA executive director, and Monty Salyer, executive director of the Wise County Redevelopment & Housing Authority.



Todd Musick, vice president of capital investments

## Virginia Development Housing Authority (VHDA)— Little Ten' honors retiring VHDA loan originator

On March 13, the Little Ten Housing Authorities of Southwest Virginia, Inc. bid farewell to longtime employee of the Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA), Michael A. Locking. Locking retired at the end of March after spending many years serving mountainous Southwest Virginia with a mobile mortgage van. It was largely through his efforts that the 'Little Ten' was able to successfully implement a VHDA low interest mortgage program known as Sponsoring Partnerships and Revitalizing Communities (SPARC) that enabled many to become homeowners and helped leverage development projects. Thank you, Michael, for being a 'Little Ten' partner and advocate! We wish you health, good luck and success in your retirement.



## Newport News—awarded Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant

The Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority (NNRHA) was awarded a \$30 million Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant from the U.S. Office of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Funded through HUD's Choice Neighborhoods Initiative, NNRHA and the city of Newport News, co-applicants for the grant, plan to utilize the \$30 million award to transform the Ridley Place Apartments and the surrounding Marshall-Ridley area into a vibrant mixed-income neighborhood.



Created to revolutionize distressed neighborhoods into neighborhoods of choice, HUD's Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (CNI) promotes a comprehensive approach to transforming neighborhoods struggling to address the challenges of housing, education, health, crime and lack of capital. For the past three years, housing authority and city staff have worked with residents,

businesses and community organizations on a comprehensive neighborhood transformation plan for the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood.

**WVAHA- IN WASHINGTON, D.C.**



The WVAHA delegation attended the NAHRO Washington Conference April 7-9 at the Crystal City Gateway Marriott.

A delegation of eight WVAHA members represented the association. They hosted the annual West Virginia Dinner on Monday, April 8.

On Tuesday, March 9, the members visited Capitol Hill and met with our state's congressional members to discuss issues facing housing in West Virginia. The highlight of the visit was meeting with Congresswoman Carol Miller in the House committee room to further discuss important topics.



**WVAHA- begins series of RAD trainings**

On March 27 & 28, the West Virginia Association of Housing Agencies (WVAHA) began a series of three RAD training sessions for all housing authorities in the state. This first session on asset repositioning was held at the Charleston Embassy Suites and was attended by 33 staff members from 15 different agencies. Holly Knight of BGC Advantage conducted the training session. Additional training sessions will be conducted in May at the Spring Workshop and at the Annual Conference in September.

**WVAHA- spring workshop well attended**

The West Virginia Association of Housing Agencies (WVAHA) gathered at the Bridgeport Conference Center April 30 through May 2, for our annual Spring Workshop. The training was well attended with 125 staff members registered, representing 25 of 32 housing authorities. Four scholarships were awarded during the scholarship luncheon and the winning posters for the "What HOME means to me" contest were selected.



**Raleigh County Housing Authority-Tony Bazzie Retires**

On March 30, the board of commissioners and staff of the Raleigh County Housing Authority, along with many friends and housing colleagues, gathered to reminisce and celebrate the career of long-term Executive Director Tony Bazzie. Tony served nearly 40 years as executive director and held numerous positions in the West Virginia Association of Housing Agencies, including president, and served as the legislative committee chairperson for SERC-NAHRO for many years.



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## SERC EVENTS | Around the region



### 2019 SERCulator Deadlines

- Spring ..... May 15
- Summer ..... August 1**
- Fall ..... October 15
- Winter ..... December 15

## What's on the agenda around SERC

### JUNE 2019

FAHRO Annual Conference—June 27-29  
 Disney Yacht & Beach Club  
 Lake Buena Vista, Florida

### JULY 2019

NAHRO Summer Conference—July 1-13  
 Boston Park Plaza Hotel  
 Boston, MA

### AUGUST

MAHRO Annual Conference—August 14-16  
 Beau Rivage Resort and Casino  
 Biloxi, MS

AAHRA Annual Conference—August 19-21  
 Gulf State Lodge  
 Gulf Shores, AL

CCHRCO Annual Conference—August 25-28  
 Myrtle Beach Marriot Resort & Spa at Grande Dunes  
 Myrtle Beach, SC

### SEPTEMBER

GAHRA Annual Conference—September 15-18  
 Marriott Savannah Riverfront Hotel  
 Savannah, GA

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