### Congresswoman Lee and HUD Secretary Castro Visit OHA

In April, Congresswoman Barbara Lee (CA-13) assembled elected officials and community advocates at the Oakland Housing Authority’s West District Office, to discuss the region’s affordable housing crisis. The Congresswoman brought together a powerful group of local leaders including Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf and Council President Lynette Gibson McElhaney to meet with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Julian Castro.

Congresswoman Lee used the opportunity to discuss with Secretary Castro the dire need for more affordable housing in Oakland. During the meeting, the Congresswoman focused the conversation on keeping Oakland affordable and maintaining our diversity. The meeting with Secretary Castro shed a national spotlight on our housing crisis and displacement. Congressman Lee acknowledged, “Right now, Oakland rents are growing faster than any other place in the nation and housing is getting further out of reach for many families. If the average Oakland resident had to move today into a market-rate apartment, they would spend 70% of their income on housing. This is a crisis affecting us all and it’s clear that coordinated action is needed,” said Congresswoman Lee. “In Congress, I’m fighting for more federal resources to keep families in the neighborhoods that they call home. Earlier this year, I was proud to help win a 34% increase in Alameda County’s

### History in the Making

Scheduled to open, Saturday, September 24, 2016, The Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture is sure to quickly become one of America’s best treasures. The museum has formally been in the making for 13 years, but tells a story that has taken over 600 years to craft.

The 400,000-square-foot building will have five levels above ground and four more below. The newest addition to the Smithsonian Institution includes exhibition space, a theater and café, staff offices and an education center.

The museum says that the “signature space” is a water and light-filled memorial area called the Contemplative Court, where visitors are invited to reflect on the stories told within the building. A reflecting pool at the south entry is endowed with a purpose—“calm waters meant to invite all to approach.”

Learn more about this important part of American history at Smithsonian.com.
Spotlight

Homeownership Program
To date, a total of 108 participants have purchased through the homeownership program, including:
• A single parent mother of four girls purchased a four bedroom home in East Oakland.
• Another single parent with two children purchased a two bedroom home in East Oakland.
• A disabled participant also achieved her dream of homeownership. She purchased a six bedroom home in East Oakland where she will reside with her five children.

FSS
In 2015, twelve participants graduated the FSS program. The total escrow disbursed in 2015 was $86,314.24; the average amount disbursed was $7,192.85.

Civic Engagement and Leadership Development
In 2015, residents played an active role in many OHA civic engagement and leadership development activities, notably our Neighborhood Leadership Institute (NLI) and Neighborhood Orientation Workshop (NOW). For the 2015 Spring and Fall sessions, 26 residents completed the NLI workshop series. We also saw 232 residents participate in NOW workshops.

For more information about these programs contact FCP at (510) 587-5115.

Guidelines for Section 8 Unit Repairs
If your unit needs repairs, notify your landlord in writing. Be specific on the needed repair(s) and how it is affecting you as a tenant. Allow your landlord at least 72 hours (for non-emergency repairs) to respond to your request. If the landlord does not make needed repairs, contact the following agencies:
• For emergencies related to utilities being disconnected by PG&E, or the unit being unlivable due to a fire, immediately contact Oakland Housing Authority at (510) 587-2100.
• For mold, mildew and lead poison, contact Healthy Homes at: (510) 567-8280 or visit http://www.achhd.org/healthyhome/maint.htm.
• For rodent, bedbug or termite problems, contact Alameda Vector Control Services at (510) 567-6800 or visit http://www.acvcsd.org.

• For sewage spillage, back-up or potential emergency situations, contact City of Oakland Code & Compliance at (510) 238-3381 or email: pwacallcenter@oaklandnet.com.

For more information on when and how to contact Oakland Housing Authority for unresolved repairs in your unit, review the complaint inspections fact sheet at http://www.oakha.org/PropertyOwners/HQS-inspections/Pages/default.aspx.

Summer Fun in the Sun
The Eastbay Regional Parks District hosts a number of activities and programs throughout the Bay Area for the community. Some of these activities include:
• Free Outdoor Movie Nights
• Special Interest Classes
• Day Camps
• Trails Challenge
• Kids Challenge
• Community Outreach Programs

You can spend the day boating, biking, fishing or simply just relaxing and enjoying nature at a nearby park. This summer, grab the kids or a friend, pack a lunch and some water and head out for some fun in the sun. Some activities do require advance registration, which can be done online at www.ebparks.org/activities/recreation#days.

Additional information about summer activities can be found on OHA's website on the Events & Activities page (under the “Residents” tab) at www.oakha.org.

Summer Lunch Program
Through a partnership with the City of Oakland’s Department of Human Services’ Summer Food Service Program, OHA’s Family and Community Partnership Department (FCP) is excited to announce that they will continue to host a Summer Lunch Program in East Oakland.

Children ages 1 to 18 years old are invited to come have lunch with staff from FCP June 13 to August 12. FCP Resident Interns will serve free healthy meals at Lockwood Gardens, located at 1327 65th Ave., Oakland, CA 94621. We will serve the children beginning at 12:00 pm and meal service will end at 1:00pm daily, Monday through Friday. All children in the surrounding community are also welcomed.

Children can simply walk into the Lockwood Gardens computer lab and enjoy a nutritious meal with us.

The Department of Agriculture has approved each delicious meal as an opportunity to encourage healthy eating habits. The lunch is a balanced meal that has portions made for children. The menu varies and usually has food from all the basic food groups.

In the last 4 summers, over 4,000 meals have been served at OHA sites. The meals help children in East Oakland obtain the nutrition they need to learn, play, and grow throughout the summer.
The OHA Resident Advisory Board (RAB) would like to encourage all residents to attend a board meeting. The RAB provides residents with a forum to share, learn, and discuss matters that are relevant to community members. It also provides an opportunity for residents to learn about the OHA Annual Plan and discuss policies that impact the entire OHA community. If you believe in the availability of quality affordable housing and wish to support the OHA community, the RAB is for you!

RAB meetings are held on the first Thursdays of each month, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm, at 1619 Harrison Street. The meetings are open to the public. Dinner and transportation assistance are provided for each meeting. If you have any questions or are interested in participating, please call 510-587-5129.

Q: I lost my job last year and have been having a hard time finding a new one. Does OHA offer help with finding work or learning new skills??

A: On July 22, 2014, President Obama signed the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) into law. WIOA is designed to help job seekers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy. Locally, the Oakland Private Industry Council serves as the facilitator of the career counseling, job search assistance, and pre-employment and life skills training, which is tailored to each person’s needs.

OHA residents are eligible for the following services following attendance at a WIOA enrollment orientation:

- 4 Keys to Success: 4-day job search workshop series (Preparing for Job Search, Writing Resumes, Interviewing, Getting & Keeping the Job)
- One-on-One support with your job search from an Employment Counselor
- Job Referrals and On-Site Recruiting Events
- Basic Computer Classes, Typing Speed Development, and Typing Certificates
- KeyTrain (e.g. Basic Skills: Reading, Math, Locating Information; Career Skills: Job Search/ Business Etiquette, Problem Solving & Customer Service etc.)
- Resume Critique and Interview Preparation (resume workshops & one-on-one coaching; mock interviews & video-recorded interview coaching)
- Possible Vocational Training or On-the-Job Training (OJT) opportunities (based on funding, labor market & need to re-enter the workforce)
- Possible supportive services based on individual need (e.g.: transportation, interview clothing, tools, uniforms, union dues, textbooks)

Success Stories

Ms. Riviore is an East Oakland resident who joined OHA’s Family Self Sufficiency program in August 2012. As an active participant, she took advantage of various programs offered through the Family & Community Partnerships department including the Women’s Group, Resident Leadership and Employment Development.

In 2014, Ms. Riviore was hired through the Section 3 program as a janitor with IMPEC/NOVA Janitorial, where she worked diligently and successfully maintained her employment. In February 2016, she attended an MGA Employee Services hiring event hosted at OHA’s West District office and was hired immediately to be the on-call janitor at UCSF. She is currently working 40 hours a week and loves her new job. Congratulations! OHA wishes you continued success.

RESOURCES

Are you unemployed, underemployed or looking to return to the workforce, but don’t know where to start? Visit a One-Stop Career Center to receive free assistance on job search, career exploration, skills and aptitudes assessment, vocational training, job placement, and supportive services at the following locations:

- **Oakland Downtown Career Center**
  1212 Broadway, Suite 100, Oakland, CA 94612
  (510) 768-4400

- **SSA Eastmont Town Center**
  7200 Bancroft Ave, Suite 140, Oakland, CA 94605
  (510) 568-8349

- **The Unity Council Multi-Cultural Career Center**
  1900 Fruitvale Avenue, Oakland, CA 94601
  (510) 533-6101

- **West Oakland Career Center**
  1801 Adeline St., Oakland, CA 94607
  (510) 419-0392

- **Lao Family Community Development, Inc.**
  1551 23rd Avenue, Oakland, CA 94606
  (510) 533-8850


RAB Blog

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RAB’S MISSION STATEMENT

To ensure that OHA Public Housing Residents and Section 8 Participants actively participate in the decision making process regarding OHA policies and procedures and are actively engaged in their community as leaders.

The RAB meets the 1st Thursday of each month from 5:00pm to 7:00pm at 1619 Harrison Street. For more information about the meeting, please call (510)587-5129.
Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf recently launched Oakland Promise, a "cradle-to-college" initiative designed to support Oakland children on their educational path from birth through college graduation. Comprised of four separate components, Oakland Promise has a goal to deliver financial and other support to 200,000 children by the year 2026. The four initiatives, Brilliant Baby, K2College, Future Centers, and College Scholarships & Completion, target the child as they move through childhood and adolescence, and research indicates that the combination of these specific supports leads to higher rates of college graduation, eventually earning the student $1.3 million more, on average, over the course of their careers than those with a high school diploma alone.

Brilliant Baby: Through a two-generational approach, babies born into poverty in Oakland will have a college savings account of $500 opened in their names, setting an expectation for college from birth. New mothers and/or fathers will benefit from parenting support, financial coaching, and the opportunity to earn financial awards as they take steps to promote their children’s well-being.

Kindergarten to College (K2C): Beginning in the fall of 2016, every Oakland child entering kindergarten in OUSD will have a college savings account opened in his or her name through a phased approach over three years, expanding to charters beginning in fall 2017.

Future Centers: School-based advising centers will be opened in Oakland high schools and large middle schools to support college and career planning for all students. Students will develop a career and college plan and get help applying for college, financial aid, scholarships, and high leverage internships.

College Scholarships and Completion: Oakland Promise’s vision is that every qualifying student will have access to college scholarships of $1,000 to $16,000 over the course of his or her college career within a decade.

To learn more about Oakland Promise, the plans for phasing in the various components of the program and participation requirements, please visit the website at www.OaklandPromise.org or email David Silver, Director of Education for Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf: dsilver@oaklandnet.com.
The 2016 Presidential campaign season has been nothing short of action-packed. With 17 candidates vying for the Republican nomination and five competing for the Democratic nomination, voters are hard pressed to stay up to date on the status of the races. The front-runner throughout most of the campaign season and now, presumptive Republican nominee is New York businessman, Donald Trump. Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton has held a solid lead in the Democratic race, with only Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders remaining.

On July 18, 2016, delegates will gather in Cleveland, Ohio for the Republican National Convention. Some are predicting fireworks but only time will tell. The Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia, PA July 25-28, may have just as much drama depending on where the delegate count ends up after the final states vote leading up to the granddaddy of them all, California, on June 7.

Regardless of the outcome of the presidential race there will be numerous “down-ticket” races on the ballot which impact everyone on a local and statewide level. The key to being able to have a say in what effects your day to day life is voting. In order to vote you must be registered. Californians can register to vote on the website of the secretary of state at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration. Voter registration forms can also be picked up at many locations such as DMV, libraries and post offices. Do not delay since there are deadlines in place for when you may do so. In California that is usually 15 days prior to a general election. Don’t delay, register to vote today.
MAY

JUNE

05/05/16 Cinco de Mayo
05/08/16 Mother’s Day
05/30/16 Memorial Day
06/07/16 Primary Voting Day
06/15/16 Summer Lunch Program Begins
06/19/16 Juneteenth

JULY

AUGUST

07/04/16 Independence Day
07/24/16 Parents’ Day
08/02/16 National Night Out
08/22/16 First Day of School OUSD
08/22/16 First Day of Fall Semester, Peralta Colleges

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

09/05/16 Labor Day
09/07/16 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Orientation
09/11/16 Oakland Pride Festival
10/31/16 Holiday Splendor tickets go on sale

Since 1984, National Night Out (NNO) has been celebrated by over 38 million people throughout the United States, U.S. territories and Canada. By coming together in the spirit of community and hosting events like block parties and BBQs, people are joining in the fight against crime and strengthening ties with their neighbors, which makes neighborhoods safer. The nation’s night out against crime is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW), and is supported by the City of Oakland and the Oakland Housing Authority (OHA).

Neighborhood groups that register their event in advance will receive support and supplies. For coordination and registration assistance for the August 2, 2016 NNO, please contact OHA’s Omar Ronquillo at (510) 535-3165 or visit http://natw.org or http://www2.oaklandnet.com/nno.

For Bay Area 4th of July Celebrations visit:
http://sf.funceap.com/family-fun-4th-july-oakland

Language translation services are available in 151 languages at all offices at no cost.
Los servicios de traducción en 151 idiomas están disponibles en todas las oficinas sin ningún costo.
Trương chánh thông dịch đầy đủ cho tới 151 tiếng nói mieng phi cho quý vị đăng cai tài nhiều vùng phòng găn đây.
所有辦公地點都會免費提供151種的外語翻譯服務。“