



# GET INVOLVED

Tom Barrett  
Mayor

Alderman Willie L. Hines, Jr.  
Chair, Board of Commissioners

## The Home Must Be the Cornerstone for High Expectations, High Achievement and High Standards

A Quarterly Newsletter for Residents of the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee

June 2011

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### A COMMITMENT TO EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE



Darrell B. Finch-Education Specialist

With the 2011 summer recess upon us, I would like to take time to thank all the families who reside with the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee (HACM) for allowing me into your homes to help enhance the educational development of your child. It continues to be a pleasure and a wonderful opportunity for me in the quest of assisting you and your child in the pursuit of excelling academically and obtaining a quality education. The implementation of the Education Initiative has had a profound effect on the lives of our residents. The Education Initiative has empowered youth to become more successful in employment, education, and good citizenship.

We recognize and salute you on a job well done. The success of the Education Initiative clearly demonstrates that parents are involved and that they are the most important factor in the educational development of their children. Parents are making sure that their children are in school every day and on time. Parents are making sure that their children are graduating from high school and seeking post-secondary education. Parents are promoting to their children that by obtaining a quality education that it will enhance the quality of their life. Some studies suggest that the fabric of children's lives outside of school and home can either nurture or choke what progress children make academically. The Home must be the Cornerstone for High Expectation, High Achievement and High Standards!

The HOPE VI Education Initiative was implemented six years ago by Tony M. Pérez the Secretary-Executive Director of HACM. Every year we are seeing the results of the vision becoming reality as students graduate from high school to seek their future endeavors with commitment, confidence and vigor.

I am pleased to announce the goals and the vision of the Education Initiative are being met. A trend has started to develop our students that is very positive. When students graduate from high school, their siblings are more likely to follow in their footsteps. Also, when students attend college we are noticing this to be a motivating factor in inspiring their siblings to seek post-secondary education.

*While we have made tremendous progress, we still face tremendous challenges and tremendous work remains to be done, and we cannot wait!*

Parents, when it comes to educating your child, you only get one shot to get it right. You don't get to do this over again. When you obtain your child's June report card, analyze it and ask yourself these four questions.

1. Is my child on grade level in math and reading?
2. Is my child on track to graduate from high school?
3. Is my child attending the right school that has an environment that will nurture their talent so that the sky is the limit?
4. Is my child achieving to their potential?

If your answer is no to any one of these questions, then my question to you is, what are you going to do about it? I contend that it is not what anyone is doing to us; it is what we are not doing for ourselves when it comes to educating our children. Parents are our children's first teacher; the work you do now will echo in history. My goal as the Education Specialist is to work with families to ensure every school age child is on track for academic success. Another outcome is to supplement parents and students with programs that will acclimate, enrich, expose, and inspire them to learn. I want to encourage you to take advantage of these wonderful opportunities that the HACM Education Initiative offers for your children's learning development. It is our sense of duty to prepare our youth for leadership, commitment, and dedication in order for them to participate and be successful in 21st century global economy. A youth who does not obtain an education will not be afforded the opportunity to pursue the American Dream. Again, I want to thank you for being engaged and involved in the pursuit of your child's educational excellence.

*Darrell B. Finch*



**Keynote Speaker:**  
**Dr. Gregory Thornton**  
Milwaukee Public School Superintendent

Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee  
Presents the 2011 Student Recognition Awards  
***“Striving To Be the Best”***  
Wednesday, June 22, 2011, 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm  
Hillside Resource Center  
Community Room  
1452 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Street

**We welcome the immediate family of children who are being recognized. This is an important event; please dress accordingly.**

- Attending the Student Recognition Awards will count as attending the Resident Council’s June meeting.
- Family style dinner will be served promptly at 5:30 pm.
- Trophies, awards, gift certificates will be awarded.

**Only residents who RSVP will be able to attend this event!**



## Special note to Students and Parents:

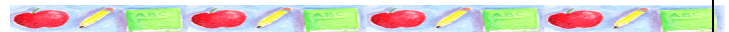


**Do you want to help prepare your child for college?**

Are you strapped financially and wondering how in the world you're going to amuse your kids this summer? But can't find the cash! There is help available. Would you love to give your child the opportunity to attend the UNIVERSITY OF

WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE PRE-COLLEGE FOR KIDS/TEENS SUMMER PROGRAM FOR **FREE?** Students must be in 6<sup>th</sup> grade through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, must have a 2.500 grade point average and qualify for free or reduce-fee school meal program. They will have the opportunity to attend two classes a day for four hours on the UWM campus from July 11-15, 2011. Upon completion, the attendees will receive UWM certificates of completion and celebrate with a pizza party. HACM provides free daily lunches to all of the students and provides shirts for participating in the program.

**CALL ME TO SIGN YOUR CHILD UP BEFORE FRIDAY, JULY 8, 2011**

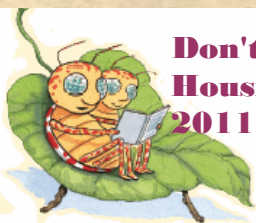


### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the HACM Education Initiative is to provide parents with support, resources, and assistance to enhance the educational development of their children so that they obtain a quality education and graduate from high school. This will be accomplished by exposing, enriching, and immersing children in an environment that is conducive to learning.

### Your Children Are Our Priority

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### Don't Bug Me...I'm Reading! Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee 2011 Summer Reading Challenge

The third annual Summer Reading Challenge will take place at Highland Gardens starting on Monday, July 18, 2011. From 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, every Monday and Wednesday, students will log in hours of reading this summer. Refreshments will be served for lunch. The Summer Reading Challenge was implemented to strengthen reading proficiency and to help encourage children to improve their reading throughout the summer in a fun and rewarding way. At the conclusion of the reading challenge, all participants will be rewarded with book bags filled with school supplies, T-shirts, McDonald's gift certificates and a summer reading experience they will never forget.