



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Columbia Housing Authority to Host 21st Annual Wall of Fame Ceremony

Columbia, S.C. – Columbia Housing Authority (CHA) will host the 21st Annual Wall of Fame Ceremony on Friday, April 18, 2008 at 11 a.m. in the Drew Wellness Center gym, 2101 Walker Solomon Way. Regina Hampton Brown and Harriet McMillan Perkins will be recognized for their dedicated community service and added to an impressive list of individuals who at one time received housing assistance from CHA. The program also includes an address by Jim Chaplin, the Columbia, S.C. field office director for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

A resident of Latimer Manor from 1973-1983 and St. Andrews Terrace from 1984-1986, **Regina Hampton Brown** is employed by Palmetto Health as public relations coordinator. Her current civic service includes serving on the board of KOBAN Columbia, Richland One Middle College Foundation-Beltline Campus, and Respite House. She is a member of the Five Points Rotary Club, Richland School District One's Community Coalition, Volunteer Program Advisory Council and overall Strategic Planning committee, and also volunteers for A Better Way - Project G.O. "Gang Out."

Brown volunteered for Junior Achievement from 1999 to 2000, Guardian Ad Litem for Richland County from 1994 to 1998, and was on the board of the AIDS Benefit of South Carolina. In 1995 and 1998, she was recognized as Volunteer of the Year for coordinating "The Giving Tree" project of the James R. Clark Memorial Sickle Cell foundation. In addition, Brown is a licensed minister and founder of Women Empowering Women Ministries, a ministry for women of all backgrounds and ages, and has ministered at women's conferences in South Carolina and Alabama.

A resident of Allen Benedict Court from 1950-1966, **Harriet McMillan Perkins** has served her community for over 30 years through her personal commitment to educating youth. Perkins graduated from C.A. Johnson High School in 1962 and earned a bachelor's degree from Benedict College in 1966. After graduation, she began teaching physical education and science in South Carolina public schools. In 1997, Perkins retired from her alma mater, C.A. Johnson High School, after 30 years as a dedicated teacher.

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Perkins is a member of First Calvary Baptist Church, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc, The Diabetes Advisory Committee of Palmetto Health, and Eva P. Trezvant Community Club. She also serves as secretary of the Edgewood/Read Street Community Improvement Cooperative Council and is a board member of the Benedict-Allen Community Development Corporation.

“We are so proud to recognize these two individuals for their commitment to helping others and improving their communities,” said CHA Executive Director Gilbert Walker. “Like all of our honorees, these women prove that a humble childhood can lead to an admirable and fulfilling adulthood of professional and civic success.”

CHA manages over 2,000 conventional public housing units and administers more than 3,100 rental assistance contracts throughout Richland County. CHA is the third oldest housing authority in the nation and has continuously been recognized by HUD for its successful housing and education programs.

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