

August, 2007

Dear Residents of Lafitte:

With the two year anniversary of Katrina this month, we continue to hear stories about the struggles that many of you and your families face. But we also hear good news about people finding jobs, reuniting with their families, and more and more we hear about Lafitte residents finding their way back to New Orleans. Our staff at Providence and Enterprise are working hard to speed up the time it's taking to repair, re-open, and rebuild Lafitte, and we're happy to report that small steps of progress continue to be made.

Updates for this month include:

1. HUD/HANO are still committed to phasing redevelopment of Lafitte. We understand that **in September they will begin the process of repairing up to 200 Lafitte apartments.** If you have not already removed your belongings from your apartment, we encourage you to do so as quickly as possible. (HANO contact number to get your belongings is 504-235-9038). More information about the repairs will be available in next month's newsletter. At that time we hope to be able to give you details on which units are being repaired, how long the repairs will take, and the re-occupancy plan.
2. **Providence is recruiting for an Administrative Assistant.** The job requires someone with 3+ years of experience in administration, with strong clerical, interpersonal, communication, and computer skills (including competency in Microsoft Word, Excel, and Outlook). The successful applicant will be responsible for multiple tasks, including daily operations in the front office, maintaining and organizing the master filing system, purchasing and maintaining inventory of office supplies, small events coordinating, etc. If you meet these qualifications and are interested in applying, please send both a cover letter and your resume by email or fax to Stephanie Walton (swalton@providencech.org or fax: 504-821-7213).
3. Our **regular monthly meeting with Lafitte residents will be held on Wednesday, September 12th.** The meeting starts promptly at 6:00 pm, and we will take a break for dinner. We expect to wrap-up by 8:00 pm. Dwayne Muhammad, Director of Management for HANO, will be attending the meeting and responding to a number of the questions that have been raised by residents at previous meetings.

We also wanted to let you know that the August 11th Community Fair at Sojourner Truth went well, about 200 people came out to enjoy the food, refreshments, great entertainment, draw prizes, free school supplies and kids area. We're hoping to make the Fair an annual event, although we may choose a cooler time of year! Thanks to all of you who were able to join us.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter or the work that Providence and Enterprise are doing in the Tremé/Lafitte and Tulane/Gravier communities, please contact Krystle Gibson at 504-821-7226. Also please don't forget to send Krystle your most recent address and phone contact information.

Sincerely,



James R. Kelly
President & CEO
Providence Community Housing



Michelle Whetten
Director, Gulf Coast Rebuilding Initiative
Enterprise Community Partners