The Virginia Association of Housing and Community Development Officials (VAHCDO) is dedicated to preserving and maintaining Virginia’s existing housing resources; improving the health and living standards of the people of Virginia; and developing new housing opportunities throughout the Commonwealth. VAHCDO represents agencies and localities that use federal, state and local funds for the development, construction and maintenance of housing.

VAHCDO plays an important role in the formulation of housing and redevelopment policy in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Such policy influence results from the strength and support of our member agencies and the effective leadership of Board of Directors. VAHCDO representatives interact regularly with the Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA), Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (VDHCD), Virginia Housing Study Commission, and the Virginia Office of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

- Leadership diligently serves the membership’s interests and needs through their liaison with Congress, HUD, and other federal agencies.
- Members have the opportunity to articulate how national policies will impact on local programs.
- Opportunities to participate in conferences and training programs puts you in touch with your colleagues throughout the state.
- Provides members with insights into HUD and Congressional actions, job vacancies, and major developments in the public housing field.
A Message From Our Past President

Thank you for your support and involvement with the Virginia Association of Housing and Community Development Officials during these past two years. It has been an amazing period of time and I have been honored and humbled to represent you as your president. I am very appreciative of the opportunity to work with the VAHCDO Board of Directors and want to express my sincere thanks for their commitment and work to promote the association and increase the value of the association to its members.

Our industry continues to be challenged by inadequate funding and increased regulatory burden. Along with sequestration, government shutdown, and the push to move Public Housing to the Rental Assistance Demonstration project has created a further lack of transparency of our industry’s future. We are fortunate that in Virginia we have many leaders who have the foresight and courage to address these challenges and have implemented strategies to address the needs within their communities.

VAHCDO is committed to supporting its membership’s through this change period and will continue to advocate, provide educational opportunities and facilitate networking opportunities for coalition and partnership building. As we move forward in addressing these challenges, I encourage your continued support and involvement with VAHCDO. Working together we can craft a future that addresses the needs of the most vulnerable Virginias and the communities we serve while creating a sustainable future for affordable housing and community development programs.

Michael G. Wong, Past President
Virginia Association of Housing and Community Development Officials
**2015 Scholarship Recipients**

**MeShawn Macklin,** Richmond RHA  
Thomas Jefferson High School GPA 4.2  
Aspiring Forensic Scientist  
“I will do all that I have to do and more to become what I want to be... successful and a role model.”

**Shakera Vaughan,** Richmond RHA  
Open High School GPA 4.6  
Aspiring Administrator  
“My goals are a stretch but I truly believe I have the determination and avid work ethic to fulfill them all.”

**Virshon Carrington,** Richmond RHA  
Thomas Jefferson High School GPA 4.2  
Aspiring Psychologist  
“...In order to succeed, I must continually work hard...”

**Asia Harris,** Newport News RHA  
Woodside High School GPA 3.7  
Aspiring Pediatrician  
“The possibilities for me are endless, and I know how much going to college would help me. I not only want to do this for myself, but for my family as well.”

**Kizh’ae Khan,** Waynesboror RHA  
Waynesboro High School GPA 3.6  
Aspiring Restaurateur  
“I plan on... turning my dreams into reality.”

**Rakiyat Ibrahim,** Richmond RHA  
Thomas Jefferson High School GPA 3.6  
Aspiring Pediatric Nurse  
“People should be exposed to many different careers and when they find the one they love; go for it.”

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“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” - Nelson Mandela
2015 VAHCDO Annual Golf Tournament

On Tuesday April 28, 2015 VAHCDO held a Scholarship Golf Tournament at The Red Wing Lake Golf Course in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

The purpose was to help raise money to provide scholarships for the children living in public and assisted housing thru out the state of Virginia.

There were six teams of four golfers that played in the tournament. The teams were:

- Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA)
- BB&T Bank
- Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority (NRHA)
- Pennoni Associates, Inc.
- Woda Group
- Little Ten Housing

The Woda Group won the tournament with a score of 59. The team members pictured left to right were Tony Walker, Tommy Graves, Monroe Preston, and Bruce Watts (Captain).

Scott Chewing of Pennoni Associates, Inc.’s had the longest drive and received a prize of a golf club.

This fund raising effort allowed for one additional scholarship to be awarded.

SAVE THE DATE:

VAHCDO’S

2016 Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament

Tuesday April 26, 2016

“What Home Means to Me” Poster Contest Winners

- **My’Anna Wilson**, Danville RHA
  1st Place - Elementary School Category

- **Kaylan Bates**, Norfolk RHA
  1st Place - Middle School Category

- **Monasha Moore**, Norfolk RHA
  1st Place - High School Category

- **Elementary School Runner Ups**
  - Jahmesha Staten, Richmond RHA
  - O’Niyah Miller, Danville RHA

- **Middle School Runner Ups**
  - Zakhyia Stamps, Danville RHA
  - Jennelle Vereen, Richmond RHA

- **High School Runner Ups**
  - Taequan Turner, Norfolk RHA
  - Larry Blount, Norfolk RHA
New Member and Social Media Statistics

VAHCDO Members

- New Membership Inquiries: 4
- New Registered Members: 2
- Organizations Added to the VAHCDO Website:
  - Abingdon RHA
  - Lee County RHA (re-added)

Face Book Statistics

Women 70%  
Men 30%  

Face Book Fans:  
169 (168 USA, 1: Austria)

Totals from June 2014 to June 2015

Postings: 54  
Post Likes: 182  
Post Views: 144

“A brand is no longer what we tell the customer it is—it is what customers tell each other it is.”

JEFFREY GITOMER

63% of companies using social media say it has increased marketing effectiveness—among other benefits.
2015-2017 VAHCDO Board Members

Lisa Porter - Marion RHA,

Newly Appointed President

Keith Sherrill - VHDA,

Newly Appointed Senior VP

Sandra Powell - Newport News RHA,

Secretary

Madelyn Peay - Hopewell RHA,

VP for Public Affairs & Membership

Clarissa McAdoo - Suffolk RHA,

Newly Appointed VP for Community Development

Donnell Brown - Norfolk RHA,

VP for Housing

Carol Jones-Gilbert - Richmond RHA,

Newly Appointed VP for Housing

Aaru Maat - Hampton RHA,

VP for Professional Development

Philip Page - Franklin RHA,

Newly Appointed VP for Program Services

Lance Allen - Staunton RHA,

Newly Appointed Treasurer

Steve Benham - Hopewell RHA,

Newly Appointed Vice President At-Large

Ed Ware - Norfolk RHA,

Newly Appointed Vice President At-Large

Michael Wong - Harrisonburg,

Past President
Mark your calendars for the 2016 VAHDCDO Annual Conference and Scholarship Luncheon April 27 – April 29, 2016 Virginia Beach, VA

Have a productive year and we’ll see you in 2016!!!