

Advocate



Northeast Florida

COMMUNITY
ACTION AGENCY
Eliminating Poverty. Promoting Self-Sufficiency.

www.nfcaa.org



From Homelessness to Self-Sufficiency

Mr. Ronnie Harris was introduced to Northeast Florida Community Action Agency (NFCAA)'s Supportive Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF) program as a referral from a local nonprofit agency. SSVF is designed to help veterans obtain and/or retain permanent housing, while also providing intensive case management that promotes self-sufficiency.

Mr. Harris was in the process of being evicted from his night-time residence and was in need of financial assistance. He had no previous knowledge of NFCAA's SSVF program or what services

the program provided. Mr. Harris had received a 3-day notice to vacate his housing and had no other housing option. He was also unemployed. Mr. Harris met the criteria to receive financial assistance through the SSVF program. The program provided rental assistance, and he was able to remain in his housing and not become homeless. Mr. Harris was able to secure employment as a concrete finisher. He did not own a vehicle, and the public transit system did not have a route to his job site. Mr. Harris was determined to become self-sufficient, so he rode his bicycle

twelve (12) miles each way everyday to his new job. Mr. Harris was temporarily laid off due to unsafe working shoes. He had a hole in the bottom of one shoe, and the sole had separated from the other shoe. NFCAA assisted Mr. Harris with a new pair of steel toe shoes. He returned to work on the following day.

Unfortunately, a few months later that job ended, and Mr. Harris found himself unemployed again and losing hope. He was determined not to sit idle and was able to secure another job as a construction laborer.

Mr. Harris was thinking that things were finally looking up for him but like before this job also ended. Mr. Perry and his Family Development Specialist began an extensive search for a permanent job with benefits and financial security. He was able to secure employment as an Optic Cable Installer with an income of \$18.00 per hour, which is \$37,440 annually with the potential for overtime pay. Mr. Harris is still employed. He has now purchased a 2015 automobile, recently closed on a new home, and is engaged to be married.

SSVF Family Development Specialist



Victor Coleman & Ronnie Harris

Serving Northeast Florida

Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns Counties

Northeast Florida Community Action Agency, Inc.

FACA's New VP



Berneitha K. McNair



NFCAA's Executive Director was elected to serve as the 2016 Vice President of the Florida Association for Community Action (FACA). Ms. McNair has worked in Community Action for 19 years and plans to utilize her new role as follows: 1) To enhance the effectiveness of Community Action in Florida; 2) To advocate for low-income individuals on a statewide basis; and 3) To strengthen FACA and the Florida Community Action Network.



Berneitha K. McNair

Executive Director's Spotlight

NFCAA Achieves

Major Accomplishment

As Executive Director of NFCAA, I am pleased to announce that the Agency is 100% compliant with the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Organizational Standards that was federally mandated by the Office of Community Services (OCS).

The Organizational Standards were created for CSBG eligible entities as part of an enhanced system for accountability and performance management across the CSBG Network.

Complying with all 58 Standards continues to position NFCAA to deliver high quality services to low-income individuals and communities, while enhancing overall capacity and effectiveness.

NFCAA will operate as follows:

- Ensure that the Agency is a high performing organization with the capacity to provide quality services for low-income individuals;

- Have systems of accountability in place to demonstrate results; and
- Pursue greater levels of impact for individuals, families, and communities that it serves in Northeast Florida.

NFCAA utilized a team approach in accomplishing this major task with support from both Board Members and Staff. I would like to thank the Board of Directors of NFCAA for volunteering their expertise in helping the Agency review and revise all of our major policies and procedures. This highly talented and dynamic group of volunteers were instrumental in Succession Planning, Strategic Planning, Assessing and Managing Risk, Updating Bylaws, Revising Personnel Policies and Procedures, and Reviewing Financial Policies.

NFCAA Staff also deserves recognition for helping achieve this milestone, while also performing their regular duties to help the Agency achieve its mission. I would also like to recognize the Florida Department of Opportunity (DEO), the State Agency designated to monitor CSBG, for the guidance and support provided in the area of CSBG Organizational Standards.

NFCAA appreciates the continued support of our partners and looks forward to offering innovative programs to combat poverty, improve communities, while also being the spirit of hope for low-income individuals in Northeast Florida.



Northeast Florida Community Action Agency, Inc.
 P.O. Box 52025
 Jacksonville, Florida 32201-2025
 (904) 398-7472

Advocate

NFCAA's 2015 Sponsors

Thank You

2016 Calendar of Events

January 28th	NFCAA's Annual Meeting
March 1st	Data Busters Accepting Applications
May	Annual FACA Conference-Orlando, Florida
June	Data Busters Program
August 4th	3rd Annual Award & Recognition Luncheon
August	CAP 2015 Annual Convention- Austin, Texas



Making Strides

In North Riverside

Since the initial unveiling of North Riverside Neighborhood Partnership, NFCAA has made positive impacts within the community and continues to make meaningful strides toward the restoration and transformation of this underserved community.



NFCAA has spent countless hours on community outreach and has identified community partners, civic leaders, residents, and community stakeholders who have since joined NFCAA's neighborhood revitalization efforts. On March 3, 2016, NFCAA hosted a Lunch and Learn community meeting for the newly identified partners.



NFCAA continues to work closely with LISC Jacksonville, Clara

White Mission and The Worship Center.

The Agency has developed a visible presence within North Riverside and has created opportunities for residents to



become involved. NFCAA organized ongoing monthly Crime Prevention Forums that

meet every second Tuesday of each month. The Agency also assisted in the relaunch of North Riverside Neighborhood Association.

On March 22, 2016, North Riverside Neighborhood Association met at the North Riverside Community Center where the Community Improvement Plan was discussed. The Association meets on the Third Thursday of each month.



The Agency has received a significant amount of support from the Jacksonville Sheriff office. These conjoined partnerships will assist in NFCAA's efforts to reduce crime and revitalize the North Riverside Community. NFCAA is also addressing unemployment in the area through education and job

training. The Agency believes that when families do well so does the community.

Ricky Perry's Story



Ricky Perry was enrolled into NFCAA Family Self-Sufficiency Program. Mr. Perry was determined to become gainfully employed after being downsized by a local bank. While receiving NFCAA and other partnering agency support services, Mr. Perry maintained a positive perspective on regaining economic self-sufficiency. The Agency provided career assessment, utility assistance, emergency assistance, and transportation assistance in providing Mr. Perry a hand up.

On December 28, 2015 Mr. Perry obtained full-time employment as a claims analyst, with a starting salary of \$15 per hour.

Mr. Perry is one of many people who NFCAA have positively impacted. The Agency continues to thrive on spreading the spirit of hope throughout Northeast Florida.

Advocate

Health & Nutrition

The St. Johns County NFCAA office sponsors weekly health and nutrition workshops. Vicky Elmore, Family and Community Service Manager, developed this program to meet the needs of seniors living in St. Johns County. The Agency provides information for healthy living with nutritional workshops and exercise fitness classes. Customers also receive access to financial literacy training. NFCAA also provides utility and emergency assistance to individuals who meet eligibility criteria.



NFCAA's health and nutrition program is sponsored by Island Doctors. Marcus Williams, Marketing Director of Island Doctors and a NFCAA Board Member, helps facilitate some of these important workshops. Participating seniors receive box lunches after their workout session.



A Hand Up Toward Self-Sufficiency



Carla Jackson's Story

Ms. Carla Jackson attended a NFCAA orientation on October 2, 2015. Ms. Jackson entered the program as a single mother of three young children and dependent on subsidized assistance such as food stamps, childcare, and housing to make ends meet. Her family income was below the Federal Poverty Level. Ms. Jackson was also unemployed and owned an unreliable vehicle. Although she felt hopeless, Ms. Jackson would not give up. She attended monthly case management sessions, trainings and required workshops. Ms. Jackson completed to her Certified Nursing Assistants Certification (CNA) at Superior Training of Orange Park.

After receiving her certification, Ms. Jackson was placed at a nursing home, earning \$90 a day. She just purchased a new vehicle and is enjoying her new career.

Clay County

The Sheriff on Community Safety

**Sheriff
Mike Williams
Speaks At
NFCAA's Crime
Prevention Forum**



Duval County

The Northeast Florida Community Action Agency (NFCAA) held its third North Riverside Crime Prevention Forum on May 17, 2016 with guest speaker JSO Sheriff Mike Williams. The event was fully attended by North Riverside residents, community leaders, and NFCAA staff. Sheriff Williams provided attendees with useful and practical tips for combating crime within their community. Sheriff Williams explained that service calls are documented, and the records are used to assess needs for reallocation of budget resources at JSO. The main take away for residents is to be vigilant and proactive in notifying police of suspicious activity.

Cleaning It Up



On Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday and National Day of Service, NFAA organized a Community Cleanup Day where residents, volunteers and NFAA Staff picked up trash and remove unsightly debris

from Mallison Park. This is another way NFAA is working toward community unification and beautifying the North Riverside area.

NFAA will continue to host a variety of events in this area. Volunteer and supportive opportunities will be listed on the Agency's website and social media pages. Stay tuned for upcoming events!



Duval County

Northeast Florida Community Action Agency



NFAA

Seven Counties *ONE COMMUNITY*

NFAA's

3rd Award & Recognition Luncheon

\$50 Ticket Price

- 1 Ticket to Awards & Recognition at Luncheon

Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront

Thursday, August 4, 2016

@ 12:00 p.m.

225 East Coastline Drive

Jacksonville, FL 32224

Phone: (904) 398-7472

Fax: (904) 398-7414