Boys and Girls Club Partnership

Chisom is proud to announce our partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of Metro Atlanta! We have diligently worked with the Club to ensure our children at Oakland City Apartments are members of the Club and have round-trip transportation. Given that Oakland City houses approximately 130+ children and less than half of their parents have access to reliable transportation, this partnership will have a huge positive impact on the community! Our partnership began September 6th and we look forward to watching our children learn robotics, explore fine arts, find lifelong mentors and develop a clear path to college at the Club.

We cannot thank Jeff Ausbrook and the employees of J4 Development enough for his generous contribution making this partnership possible! J4 rehabilitated many Chisom properties and now he is graciously supporting our social services efforts beginning at the Oakland City Apartments in West End Atlanta!
The children at Falfurrias, Rio Hondo, Donna Village, the Clusters and Pines at Garden City thank our generous donors for their new school supplies!

Preparing our Children for a Great School Year at our Texas Communities, Clusters and Pines at Garden City

School supplies are often overlooked by public benefit programs leaving low-income families with the burden of providing them on their own. Our Texas properties are grateful for HEB’s strong commitment to supporting our children’s education by donating school supplies. HEB is a grocery store chain with a significant presence in Texas. We would also like to thank Mari’s Tacos in Donna, TX - a small restaurant with a big heart. At the Pines at Garden City, we relied on the generous support of our property vendors: Treat Your Feet, GA Natural Gas and Mass Productions all demonstrated their commitment beyond our physical property and into the hearts of our community. Pastor Roy Jaye from the First Southern Baptist Church in Hutchinson near The Clusters rallied his congregation members together to donate school supplies and host a Back to School Celebration for our residents with food and games! In Louisville, KY, Walmart graciously matched our purchases and doubled the amount of supplies our staff could provide to families. And we cannot forget to thank Ms. Ana, Ms. Sandra, Ms. Veronica, Ms. Nelia and Ms. Shatonya for their great work connecting us to potential donors.
Flu Shot Clinics Across Chisom Communities

Some of you may remember that flu shot clinics were one of the first social services Chisom provided. We have grown a lot since then! This year we have been able to continue our focus on healthy lifestyles by providing a flu shot clinic at every Chisom community. Here’s one little known fact—the average cost of outpatient medical services for a non-high risk case of the flu is $95! Our flu clinics are especially useful for residents without transportation since we bring the flu shot to them. We thank all of our property managers and local pharmacies for making this service possible! Let us know what other health care related services we can assist with in the future! Dental health checks? Blood pressure clinics? Chisom wants to help our residents lead their healthiest lives!

Arm Yourself with a Walgreens Flu Shot

makes it easy to Arm Yourself with a flu shot so you can stay healthy.

Date: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2016
Time: 2 to 3 PM
Location: CALIFORNIA SQUARE II APARTMENTS
Cost: FREE with most health insurances **

Only for residents over age 15. Please bring health insurance card.

** Vouchers are available on a first-come, first-served basis for residents that do not have health insurance and they will cover the cost of the vaccine.

Spreading the Word About GED Classes

Do you want to earn $700 more every month?! By meeting with individual residents, we have found that the need for GED classes is present at many (if not all) of Chisom’s communities. It is important for Chisom to encourage residents to obtain their GED as it can be their first step towards financial stability. Employees with their GED or high school diploma can earn up to $700 more each month than their counterparts that do not have a GED. Chisom has partnered with local GED programs to schedule info sessions at California Square II, the Clusters and Colleton Heights. At communities where info sessions are not possible, we are promoting the classes by other means and welcome your suggestions.

Soon, Chisom will provide scholarships to cover the cost of tuition and tests for residents that are eager to obtain their GED. Please inform Sarah or Povneet if you know a resident that is interested!
Welcoming Mrs. Rita to Fieldcrest Apartments

Chisom would like to extend a warm welcome to Mrs. Rita, our new Property Manager at Fieldcrest Apartments! Mrs. Rita is very excited to begin her career in property management after a successful and extensive career of 33 and a half years as an elementary and middle school teacher. She is a Waynesboro, MS native and either taught or went to school with pretty much everyone in town! In her spare time, she enjoys reading and traveling to the mountains with her loving husband, two children and three grandchildren!

Thank-You Ms. Betty for Leading Colleton Heights Through the Fire’s Aftermath

On June 4th, a tragic fire destroyed eight units at Colleton Heights. Luckily, no one was injured and the community came together to take care of the displaced residents. The Red Cross stepped in and provided hotel rooms and meal vouchers. We are also very thankful for Ms. Betty’s diligent efforts organizing donations from the community. Ms. Betty went above and beyond her responsibilities as property manager by ensuring her residents’ basic needs were always met—even if that meant purchasing personal hygiene products for the residents from her own pocket. Ms. Betty turned this tragedy into a story of hope!

The contractors are working hard to bring the units back to their former glory. This is one of the fixed units.

Eight units were destroyed by a tragic fire at Colleton Heights.
Chisom Housing Group is led by an eight-member Board of Directors with additional advisors who provide guidance to the group. Our Board includes two resident members, including Ms. Olga Garza pictured in front with Executive Director Sarah Bagley. Each year, the Board meets to discuss the progress it has made in the past year and its vision and goals for the year ahead. The 2016 meeting was held in Seattle, WA on September 23, 2016. Sarah presented Chisom’s social services programs accomplishments over the past year and shared individual stories of residents who have taken advantage of the opportunities provided by Chisom to participate in summer meals, afterschool programs, budget and homeownership classes, and health screenings and programs. The Board is enthusiastic about the year ahead and potential for growth of Chisom’s programs in 2017. Our goals include expanding our fundraising efforts to allow for expansion of our current service programs. We also hope to identify residents in pursuit of a GED, college degree or other certification where Chisom can support those efforts through scholarships and financial support.
Our Seniors Are Living and Cooking Healthy!

In September, our seniors began a Living Healthy Class at Yadkin House and a Cooking Class at Portland Plaza! Living Healthy is the Chronic Disease Self-Management program from Stanford University. This program seeks to teach and empower residents to take control of their chronic illness.

Dare to Care visits Portland Plaza every month and provides commodity boxes for our seniors in-need. They have now expanded their monthly commodity program to include a biweekly cooking demonstration. The instructor will teach the residents how to cook healthy meals with the items they receive through the program.

Chisom Has Begun Providing Services to St. Paul’s Senior Living at Wayne’s Place!

Chisom is excited to announce that we have begun providing services to the residents of St. Paul’s Senior Living at Wayne Place! St. Paul’s is a beautiful property located in Washington, DC with endless amenities including a movie room, salon, craft space, weight room and therapeutic pool! Sarah and Povneet can’t wait to put these amenities to good use and improve the residents’ quality of life in their Golden Years!
Did you know that you can support Chisom by simply shopping on Amazon Smile?! Amazon Smile has all the same products and affordable prices as Amazon—the only difference is when you shop at Amazon Smile, Amazon donates 0.5% of your purchase amount to a nonprofit of your choice! (Choose Chisom!) Simply go to www.smile.amazon.com, log into your Amazon account and choose “Chisom Housing Group” as the charity you support. You can also donate by clicking the “donate” button on www.chisomhousing.org or www.facebook.com/chisomhousing.

Spread the word by telling your family and friends! Also keep an eye out for our End of Year fundraising!

Support Chisom as you shop online!

Coming soon…

The Holidays!

Chisom will soon begin our holiday efforts! We plan to partner with our residents and community members to organize new holiday festivities and support any annual festivities that are already in-place. Contact Sarah or Povneet if you have plans for your community!