



[View as Web Page](#) [Subscribe](#) [Unsubscribe](#)

[Community Housing Coalition](#)



Housing Coalition Headlines

Community Housing Coalition of Madison County, NC

Board of Directors

Lin Von Dreele, President
 Larry Burda, VP
 Steve Honeycutt, Treasurer
 Dagmar Haubold, Secretary
 Lee Hoffman
 Jennifer Reda
 Mike Bradley
 Jennifer Flynn
 Jennifer Woodruff
 Katherine Early
 Beverly Sawyer
 Betty Hurst
 Celina Uribe
 Susan Sherard

Staff

Christopher Brown, Executive Director
 Chris Watson, Client and Grants Coordinator
 Stephanie McCullough, Volunteer Coordinator
 Whitney Mitchell, Administrative Assistant
 George Austin, Repair Needs Assessor
 Jake Owen, Repair Needs Assessor
 Madalyn Tedone, Bookkeeper

Contact

13 S. Main St, Suite 304

In this issue:

- [Management Musings](#)
- [Splinters from the Board](#)
- [Volunteer Corner](#)
- [Client & Grants Update](#)
- [Notes from Our Neighbors](#)
- [Donation Box](#)
- [Eats & Drinks for Housings Sake](#)
- [Legs & Regs](#)
- [Closing Thoughts](#)

Management Musings

By Christopher Brown, Executive Director

A cheery top-of-the-month to everyone! We are heading into the month of March after some unseasonably warm spells in February....but we all know Winter isn't completely done with us yet. Certainly our homes are still cold at night and we're thankful for the shelter. But Spring is on its way, and along with its colorful blooms come several new board members at CHC!

A whopping four new board members have joined the forces at Community Housing Coalition. We are so pleased to welcome Beverly Sawyer, Betty Hurst, Celina Uribe, and Susan Sherard to the growing Board of Directors at CHC that now has 14 members. Beverly will lend her support to the board's Outreach Committee; Betty and Susan will join the newly formed board's Development Committee; and Celina has pledged to help the board's Fundraising Committee. All of their efforts are greatly needed and appreciated, as safe housing in our County is so crucial.

Having a large and multi-talented Board of Directors is also crucial to CHC as an organization. Board members volunteer their time and talents to make CHC strong. The more board members we have, the more ideas for success CHC has to continue to grow. And being a community-based nonprofit, CHC is thrilled to expand its connections in the community. If you see Beverly, Betty, Celina or Susan around town, make sure to congratulate them and ask them what's new with CHC!

(physical)
P.O. Box 1166
(mailing)
Marshall, NC 28753
828-649-1200

[Email](mailto:CHC@chcmadisoncountync.org)
CHC@
chcmadisoncountync.org

[Web Page](http://www.chcmadisoncountync.org)
www.chcmadisoncountync.
org

Find us on [Facebook](#)! Search "CHC Madison" then go to our page and "like" us.

[Who We Are](#)
CHC is a 501(c)(3) independent, non-profit organization, governed by a volunteer board. CHC's mission is to promote and facilitate healthy, safe, and [affordable housing](#) in Madison County, NC.

Spread the word and come on out to Expo Madison happening this month! The event takes place on the Mars Hill University campus and is a fun, family-friendly expo on local businesses, organizations, and vendors in Madison County, including a booth for CHC. This is the 2nd year and we are looking forward to seeing you there: March 11 from 11:00-3:00 in Chambers Gym on Mars Hill University's campus.

Finally, Neighbors Helping Neighbors work days are in full swing again for 2017. Look to Stephanie's piece later in this newsletter for a full report on February's NHH event. It's a superb way to participate in your community, make some new friends, learn some skills, and help out a neighbor by sharing your time. CHC will be co-hosting, alongside a local neighbor, a workday about once a month in 2017. Will you answer the call to volunteer and participate in your community? Give us a call at (828) 649-1200 and let Stephanie know you're interested.

Splinters from the Board

By Lee Hoffman

Wow! I have been out of the loop with CHC for a couple of months. We didn't have a December meeting, and I had to miss the January meeting, so at the February meeting, my head was swimming. There are lots of exciting things happening in Community Housing. To start, we have four new board members since I last attended. What a great addition to our board! I can already tell that these folks will have a lasting impact on the future of CHC and housing in Madison County. There are also many new faces inside the offices of CHC. I didn't get to say my goodbyes to Katie and Annie, but have had the opportunity to meet Whitney and Stephanie.

Again, the energy around this organization is infectious, and it is so satisfying to be associated with people who are so committed and passionate about the work they do. While I know that the people CHC serves feel blessed by the power of their commitment, I too feel blessed by the example of service and community empowerment that they embody. And, as I am in awe of the CHC staff, I am also constantly reminded of how special the people are who make up the CHC Board of Directors; true servant leaders!

As all of these good people come together to begin 2017, you will be hearing in the weeks and months ahead of an exciting **new Spring Event** which will become CHC's annual celebration of housing and new beginnings in Madison County. We also hope you will **continue to support local Madison and Buncombe County restaurants** who so graciously donate a portion of their proceeds to CHC and other local non-profits during various months throughout the year. **We are all so thankful for the support you provide to impact housing in Madison County.**

Volunteer Corner

By Stephanie McCullough, Volunteer Coordinator



Front: Jake, Vivienne, Joey, Julie, Ben (five additional volunteers not pictured)
Back: Andrea, Celina, Nicholas, Callum, Katelyn, Stephanie, Sydney, Nick

This past Saturday's Neighbors Helping Neighbors workday was a terrific success! The homeowner was out working alongside volunteers nearly the whole day. Some family, friends and neighbors all showed up to lend a hand as well. We had a group of 14 local volunteers and 4 client volunteers, for a total of 18 people on the work site. I explained to the homeowner that this is precisely why Community Housing Coalition of Madison County exists, and why we at CHC encourage the fostering of relationships across the county. In response, here is a quote from the homeowner, "I'm not just grateful to have had the help, but I'm also grateful to have made some friends". Additionally, before I had a chance to ask, the homeowner offered to volunteer at a future NHN work day. *Success! On so many levels!*

Summer 2017 will be here before we know it and many of our returning summer groups have already reached out to CHC for information on potential projects. We are in the process of conducting a client review, which will enable us to match urgent need projects with summer groups and their skills. More on this in April's Housing Coalition Headlines.

Now it's time to be thinking about the next NHN. It will be held on Saturday, March 18th 10am-3pm. Mark your calendars! Be there if you can, it is a most rewarding experience. Interested individuals or groups should contact Stephanie at 828.649.1200 or email volunteercoordinator@chcmadisoncountync.org.

Here's to Happy Housing!

Client & Grants Update

By Chris Watson, Client and Grants Coordinator

This month we closed out the 2015 Urgent Repair Program grant. This grant provided \$100,000 in funding through the NC Housing Finance Agency to alleviate housing conditions that pose an imminent threat to health and safety, as well as providing accessibility modifications for homeowners. Through this grant CHC served 36 homes during the 16 month grant period. These repairs completed include: 11 roofs, 11 plumbing systems, 3 electrical systems, 3 heating systems, and 6 handicap accessibility improvements.

The \$100,000 in investment from the NCHFA was matched by \$101,447 in community and summer mission in-kind support, as well as \$5,990 in NC Independent Living funding. This is a record level match for CHC and everyone in the CHC family is to thank. There is however, still a tremendous need for urgent repairs in the County. In the past three weeks alone we have replaced two heating units for elderly folks and repaired two plumbing systems for families with no running water in the homes.

I feel it is important to point out that for most of our clients, their request to

CHC for assistance is only after the friends and family have exhausted their personal resources. I often meet with the homeowner, as well as their children and grandchildren, and talk about all the things that have been done over the years to keep an old plumbing system running, repair a heater, or patch a leaking roof. They want to be involved and are hesitant to ask for help, yet they know that a professional is needed to insure the health and safety of their loved ones. They appreciate that CHC can assist them, but more importantly they are thankful that CHC expects them to give back by leveraging CHC help with their own resources and pay it forward by helping other neighbors.

Notes from Our Neighbors

"All the work that has been done and is in process is like a miracle for me. Sometimes I feel like I'll never get anything done, and then you angels come along and I keep being reminded how beautiful we all are."
~ Anonymous Client

Donation Box



As a reminder, CHC is proud to be a United Way partner! As you make contributions to the United Way of Madison County, you can designate CHC as a recipient.

If you would like to make a donation to CHC: You can mail a tax deductible gift to The Community Housing Coalition of Madison County, P.O. Box 1166, Marshall, NC 28753. Or visit our website at <http://www.chcmadisoncountync.org> to make a donation online.

Thank you!

Eats & Drinks for Housings Sake



The month of March will be a little different than past Eats and Drinks events...

Blue Mountain Pizza, owned by the generous Matt Danford and home of CHC's first ever Eats & Drinks event, has agreed to match any donations deposited in the "CHC Donation Jar on the Bar" up to \$500. This

means that every dollar donated will be doubled, thereby doubling the positive impact CHC can have on

providing safe and affordable housing for our neighbors in Madison County! Also, Blue Mountain Pizza has dedicated **Thursday, March 16th as the day they will donate 10% OF ALL SALES to CHC.** So, gather your friends, family, and even Fido (they offer dog-friendly, outdoor seating on their inviting patio) this March and head to Blue Mountain Pizza in Weaverville for delicious food from an expansive menu and a diverse selection of cold beverages. Look for the **CHC donation jar** and drop your extra dollars in...**AND** mark your calendars for **Thursday, March 16th** to support both this amazing local business and CHC!

Legs & Regs

A lot of changes in the works, folks! For starters, Democrats in the senate have released a plan that includes funding ideas for housing challenges. These ideas include tax incentives/federal affordable housing programs that address low-income families as well as funding solutions to harmful housing for children who face lead poisoning risks in more than one million homes in the United States. You can access the details here: [Blueprint to Rebuild America's Infrastructure](#)

Nominations/Appointments:

1. Ben Carson has been approved as the nominee of Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. As of February 20th, he is awaiting Senate confirmation.
2. Mel Ellis has been named USDA State Director for North Carolina

...And speaking of North Carolina, our state's Housing Coalition has updated its county fact sheets in a visual story format. You can access this easy-to-read, informative fact sheet and check out, by county, the housing cost burden summary for 2016 [here](#).

Readers can be rest assured that we are paying close attention to changes in legislation and regulation during this time of significant transition in our state and federal government. As concrete developments occur, we will update this section of the newsletter with important news and changing policies.

Closing Thoughts

The flowers are blooming, the birds are singing, and that woodpile is disappearing at a slowing rate. It seems that spring has sprung, folks. It's hard to believe it is already time to peel your layers and prep your garden beds for new plant life. With these plant-friendly temperatures also comes not-so-plant-friendly life in the insect realm. So allow me to share with you these do-it-yourself, budget friendly pest control tips that can help you keep a leg-up on home and garden pests:

1. **Neem Oil:** With over 50 natural insecticides, neem can be made into a diluted spray form or bought from a retailer.
2. **Salt Spray:** For the treatment of *spider mites*, use some pink Himalayan sea salt as a dilution in warm water and spray infested plants.
3. **Citrus Oil and/or Cayenne Pepper Mix:** For *ants*, dilute oil and cayenne pepper in warm water, then spray.
4. **Organic, Castile Soap and Orange Citrus Oil:** For *slugs*, *ants*, *cockroaches*. Make a dilution and spray.
5. **Onion and Garlic Spray:** Mince garlic and onion, add cayenne and organic castile soap, then dilute the mix in water...shake and spray!

For detailed mixing ratios and more DIY pest remedies you can find information at:

globalhealingcenter.com/natural-health/organic-pesticides

Wishing you all a healthy transition from the winter months to the rejuvenating powers of spring!



Forward
To A Friend



Community Housing Coalition • p.o. box 1166 • Marshall, NC 28753

<http://chcmadisoncountync.org>

[Subscribe](#) | [Unsubscribe](#) | [Send to a Friend](#) | [Preferences](#) | [Report Spam](#)

Powered by [MyNewsletterBuilder](#)

