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# Housing Coalition Headlines



## Community Housing Coalition of Madison County, NC

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June Trevor, Local  
Volunteer Coordinator  
Chris Watson, Grants  
and Office Support  
Coordinator  
George Austin, Repair  
Needs Assessor  
Jake Owen, Repair  
Needs Assessor  
Mike Ray, Bookkeeper

### Contact

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828-649-1200

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## Management Musings

**By Chris Brown, Executive Director**

Happy New Year!

As we welcome in 2015, on behalf of the whole CHC team we wish all our CHC family, friends, supporters and those who we serve a warm, safe New Year. We hope that as you reflect on your year-end holidays, your memories are of warmth, family and good fellowship - a time of peace and relaxation with your loved ones. When thinking on those times remember how special they are and how you would remember them differently if those celebrations had been housed in a substandard structure. Many of CHC's constituents' holiday memories have again been created in that very environment. They wish only to experience what so many of us take for granted; a warm, dry and comfortable home in which to make fond peaceful memories.

Thank you to the many of you who have already donated via our Winter Appeal. There are many ways you can still contribute, get involved and help support the work of improving housing conditions in Madison County:

- You can volunteer your time
- Donate to our [Indiegogo Campaign](#), described below
- Share the word of our work with others in the area!

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.

## Splinters from the Board

**The Board is taking a well deserved break - "Splinters" will return in the next issue.**

## Only a FEW HOURS LEFT in Our IndieGogo Campaign!



In case you missed this in our last newsletter...In an effort to improve our service and meet the increasing need for our services we need your support to purchase a custom designed client management software program. This will save us a ton of time and make the agency more organized, thus improving our ability to meet client needs and the experience and impact of our volunteers. And, once created, there is no annual cost for the software.

### **What we are seeking**

We are raising \$3,000 to pay for FullSteam Labs to design and implement a Podio ([www.podio.com](http://www.podio.com)) based client management portal. FullSteam Labs is a worker-owned tech cooperative specializing in creative design, digital storytelling, and tech consulting for good causes. Check them out at [www.fullsteamlabs.com](http://www.fullsteamlabs.com). The number of clients CHC and the impact of our work has outgrown our old-fashioned methods of handwritten notes and massive spreadsheets.

### **What you can do BEFORE the campaign ends at the end of the day today!**

Please visit our [campaign page](#), share the link:  
<http://igg.me/p/community-housing-coalition-goes-digital/x/8682491>

AND, of course, consider making your contribution today!

## Volunteer Corner

**June Trevor is taking a break and enjoying her family and grandchildren. We still have need for volunteers. Consider coordinating some friends, neighbors and church members to help out!**

### **MANY NEIGHBORS STILL IN NEED IN THE COLD WINTER MONTHS**

Many CHC client homes have repair needs that remain unaddressed as we

enter the winter months. **We invite local groups to get involved in providing an urgently needed repair between December and March.** Here are some repairs needed in the weeks ahead. In most cases, CHC can cover the cost of materials:

- Roof seal or repair
- Simple roof installations (install a roofing membrane on a mobile home, simple nail-over roof)
- Low/medium-skill plumbing projects
- Shower installation

We welcome all groups: civic, church, employee, student or just a group of friends that wants to spend some time together while providing a valuable service to a neighbor.

To sign your group up for a project in January, February or March, OR if you would like a CHC representative to come speak with your group about volunteering, please contact us at 828-649-1200.

## Grant Update

**By Chris Watson, Client and Grants Coordinator**

As the end of the year arrives, we are in the process of closing out our Urgent Repair Program's 2013 (URP) funding cycle. CHC received \$50,500 in URP funding from the NC Housing Finance Agency. Through this funding, CHC was able to complete urgent and critical repairs to **19 homes** in Madison County. This was over 25% the number of homes we had projected to assist. One of the main reasons we were able to help more families was the amount of **community leveraging** we were able to apply to the grant funding. Overall, CHC leveraged \$33,000 in volunteer labor and material contributions with the URP funding to bring the total impact of the annual grant program to \$83,000. Assistance included 8 roofs repaired or replaced, 6 plumbing/septic systems repaired or replaced and 2 handicap accessibility modifications. We couldn't have done that without you!

CHC continues to assist homes in need with a \$100,000 in 2014 URP funding and is in the process of applying for 2015 URP funding. These programs are vital to the mission of CHC and the health and safety of our clients. The success of these programs is due in large part to the investment of our volunteer community. During this season of thanks and remembrance we are sincerely thankful for the donations of time and money from our supporters that allow CHC to serve the people of Madison County. The commitment of our supporters is why the NC Housing Finance Agency has recognized CHC as "one of the few organizations receiving URP funds that can successfully combine volunteer labor, donated materials, and locally sourced funds to greatly expand the number of homeowners positively affected by its repair programs."

## Donation Box

The end of the year is a time when non-profits like CHC appeal to the generosity of friends, family, neighbors and the community for financial support. Over the next few weeks we will be sending letters to many of you. We do hope you will consider the value proposition CHC offers - for every \$1 CHC receives in donations we are able to leverage \$6 in donated labor and materials. All donations levels are needed! Whatever the amount, it will be of great help and utilized to its utmost possibility to support our too often overlooked neighbors.

Please also consider sharing this opportunity with others you think may be interested.

You can share the contact information by mailing or emailing them to CHC right away.

Our contact info is located on the left sidebar.

You can always 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!

## Closing Thoughts

Though we have had a relatively warm beginning to our winter here in Madison County, keep in mind the colder weather to come and those low income residents, just down the road from you who are working hard to stay warm as temperatures drop.

At the year's end, as you realize the improvement of your own personal economy and wealth, think about what you can do to invest in this community's health and well-being, the REAL wealth of our lives, by contributing to CHC. Share your wealth with those who have little savings or financial opportunity and support their TRUE WEALTH.

**Thank you!**

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