



Community Housing Services Agency, Inc.

# The Insider Update

Community Housing News

Volume 1, Number 1 March 2023



## **Historic Cuyler-Brownville Neighborhood Receives \$1M Donation from the Galvan Foundation via the Savannah Affordable Housing Fund**

After moving to Savannah during the pandemic, T. Eric Galloway, president of the Galvan Foundation, read the Housing Savannah Action Plan and was impressed. He donated \$50,000 to CHSA-- and asked to learn more. Many tours and meetings followed with CHSA. Intrigued by its unique history and beautiful houses, Mr. Galloway chose the Cuyler-Brownville neighborhood as the focus of a \$1M donation for minor home repairs, down payment assistance, development financing and technical assistance. But that's not all - the Galvan Foundation has committed to develop 19 properties in Cuyler-Brownville to create affordable and mixed income housing. Initial work is expected to begin this spring.

A new employee of the Galvan Foundation, Juan Uzcategui, will provide staff support for CHSA Development, which will serve as the master developer.

[More information on Cuyler-Brownville neighborhood history HERE.](#)

[More information on the Galvan Foundation HERE.](#)

[Download One-Pager on the Opportunity](#)



## **Anita Smith-Dixon Serves on Panel at Opportunity Finance Network Southeast Regional Meeting**

CHSA is a member of the Opportunity Finance Network, a national network of over 390 Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI's). At OFN's Southeast Regional Meeting in Atlanta on February 15, Anita Smith-Dixon served on a panel discussing how CDFI's can help communities underserved by mainstream financial institutions to create affordable housing.



## Miss Naomi's Neighborhood Notes

### Getting Serious About Safety

When I first moved to my neighborhood back in 1978, we were all barred in our homes like prisoners. There were few lightposts, and many overgrown trees provided plenty of darkness where criminals liked to lurk. I knew no one on my block in the beginning. I had visited my great-aunt many times before she died. When she deeded her house to me, I figured it was in my best interest to get to know my neighbors. And the only way to do that is to start knocking on doors.

I also kept calling city agencies to address some of the dangers, like criminals, a woodrat infestation, and the overgrown trees. At first, people didn't like me. They told me they didn't want the city all in their business. But over time, my neighbors started to trust me. Because they realized that I was all about safety – my safety, their safety, even the safety of the people who had no business being in my neighborhood.

Friends, especially in these times when family often lives further away, we need our neighbors. If something happens to you, the fastest person who can help is your next-door neighbor. Family cannot help you as fast as an alert neighbor, who can call 9-1-1 just as fast as they see you on the ground in pain.

There is safety in being a good neighbor. Try it out!

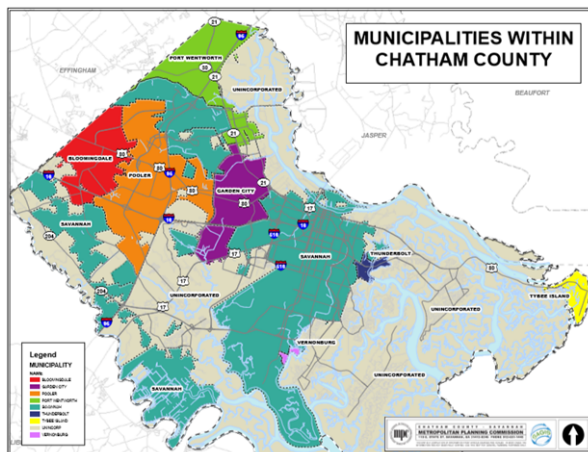
(This column is the first by Ms. Naomi Brown, CHSA board member and former Neighborhood Coordinator for the City of Savannah. Ms. Brown has extensive community development experience.)

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### Leave a legacy of affordable homes in your will...

Have you ever considered leaving a final gift for a nonprofit in your will? We hope you might consider CHSA for such a legacy gift - your generosity will create affordable homes for families! Our website has more information, and even a form you can give your estate planner. Questions? Call us! **912-651-2169**

## Expanded Service Area for CHSA



CHSA has expanded its service area to all of Chatham County, including the eight municipalities of Savannah, Garden City, Pooler, Bloomingdale, Tybee Island, Port Wentworth, Thunderbolt, and Vernonburg. We are excited to explore the possibilities!

The Chatham Savannah Land Bank Authority has properties available for redevelopment - click the logo at right to view properties.

Interested?

Call Alison Goldey at 912-652-3846.



## Did you know?

CHSA invests in affordable homes throughout Chatham County -- your donations make it possible to build a stronger community for all of us!

DONATE to CHSA



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