**Johnson City Schools Homeless Education Program**

**Homes 4 Youth Program (H4Y)**

* 2012- Idea about assisting homeless UY and veterans started.
* 2013-Our idea about housing for UY was fueled by a NEACHY conference where one of our students was a recipient of the Le Tendre scholarship. During that conference we had the pleasure of meeting with Patricia Julianelle. She spoke with us about the high volume of calls to a runaway hotline in Upper East Tennessee. From there she came to our schools and community to help raise awareness about UY.
* Johnson City Housing Authority (JCHA) was our first partner. Director: Richard McClain
* 2013: H4Y task force was established. With the collaboration of several community agencies (DCS, Youth Villages, Holston Homes, JCHA, Frontier Health, ETSU, JCS Homeless Education Program, and NAEHCY) we placed our first UY which was our Le Tendre scholarship recipient.
* 2014- JCHA and Keystone Development bought property for Baker Street Apartments after trying 5 different properties previously. Richard spoke with us about the hurdles of buying properties (neighbors did not want low income developments, non-support from City and County leaders). His advice was “NEVER GIVE UP”.
* 2014 – present- Over 50 youth have been in the H4Y program. All received low income housing, case management to assist them in completing high school, applying for college, grocery shopping, job searching, cooking, money management, and much more. Our community has been a great support. From helping students pay rent and deposits to moving in furniture.
* 2017- Ribbon cutting for the completion of Baker Street apartments.

2 UY and 4 veterans have moved into the 12 bedroom complex. Plans are to build 12 more apartments on this location by 2019.

**Total cost**

**Phase One**: $1.5 Million for 12 units.

**Funding Sources**

• THDA- $500,000 grant. (Housing trust fund)

• JCHA- $900,000

• Federal Home Loans Bank of Cincinnati -$100,000 grant.

City of JC waived city permits. $500 donation from Bank of Tennessee. $500 Donation from General Shale Brick.

**Phase Two:** $1.2 Million. Completion expected in 2019.

Funding Sources: $500,000 FHLBC. $500,000 THDA.

JCS Homeless Education Programs success with the H4Y project was greatly due to collaboration with our community partners. JCHA did most of the administrative work with THDA and other funding sources. We also opened our community’s eyes to a population of students that many times drop out of high school and fall through the cracks.

Bonnie White: Homeless Coordinator JCS

Sydnee DeBusk: Assistant Homeless Coordinator JCS

Contact information:

[Whiteb1@jcschools.org](mailto:Whiteb1@jcschools.org)

(423) 434-5226