**MLK Day and AmeriCorps**

Monday, January 17, is MLK Day, a holiday to celebrate the life and teaching of America's preeminent civil rights leader, Martin Luther King Jr. This day also serves as an opportunity for individuals all over the country to come together for a day of service. This year, Virginia LISC AmeriCorps members will be walking the Fulton community in Richmond to make residents aware of the Earned Income Tax Credit, and the criteria required to apply. Members will also inform residents of where they can file their taxes for free.

At 1:00 pm on January 17, residents are invited to enjoy a hot chocolate social at the Neighborhood Resource Center located at 1519 Williamsburg Road. Cynthia Newhille, Fulton’s Councilwoman, will be available to talk to residents. In addition, residents can learn about Financial Literacy strategies and events that will be held throughout 2011, including information on Financial Literacy Fun Festival to be held on Saturday, May 7, 2011 within the Fulton Community. On that day, a host of organizations and volunteers will be in Fulton to play games with the youth and provide information on credit and credit scores, IDA accounts, home buyer and foreclosure counseling and money saving strategies.

For more information about Virginia LISC AmeriCorps and the two events, please contact Vincent Edmunds at vedmunds@lisc.org or 804.358.7602 ext. 28. If you would like more information on MLK Day visit [www.mlkinr.gov](http://www.mlkinr.gov).

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**Neighborhoods Rising**

**A QUICK UPDATE**

**Battersea Rising**

Battersea Rising's Quality of Life final plan is almost complete. After a little fine turning of strategies, residents are working together in teams to pick projects for implementation and to decide who is doing what and by when. Next step is a public presentation of the plan.

**Greater Fulton's Future**

Residents are hard at work on the Greater Fulton’s Future draft plan. Residents are starting to form neighborhood teams to discuss the strategies formed during the visioning process to further prioritize based on resources (time, human and dollars). The next step for the plan is putting all of the pieces together, fine tuning the strategies and picking projects to implement. Stay tuned for information on Early Action Grants for organizations to implement projects in key focus areas.

For more information, please contact [Veronica Jemmott](mailto:Veronica.Jemmott@lisc.org)
Claiborne Square Progress

What once was a dream of Rev. Diggs at Tabernacle Baptist Church in Petersburg is closer to becoming someone's home. Claiborne Square, a 47 unit affordable senior housing development is located in the Halifax community. Claiborne Square is being developed by the partnership of Restoration of Petersburg Community Development Corporation (ROPCDC) and the Better Housing Coalition (BHC). From rendering to reality, Claiborne Square is getting closer to completion and will be the first development in Petersburg resulting from LISC’s Petersburg community planning process.

For more information, please contact Veronica Jemmott

Claiborne Square rendering

Claiborne Square today