



NEWS RELEASE

High Point Housing Authority

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

High Point Housing Authority Honors Two Community Leaders in its Fifth Annual Pillars of Fame Award Ceremony

High Point, NC – The **Pillars of Fame Award** was established in 2006 by the Housing Authority of the City of High Point (HPHA) and was modeled after the Wall of Fame in Columbia, SC. The objective of this award is to inspire community youth with positive, encouraging images, and role models that are former HPHA residents of public housing and Section 8 who overcame obstacles and became successful leaders and pillars of the community.

The Selection Committee composed of Roy Moore, High Point Housing Authority Public Housing resident; community volunteer Barbara Frye; and Housing Authority Commissioners Michael Ellerbe and Mary Brown, had the difficult task of reading all the outstanding applications and making the final selections.

The *2010 Pillars of Fame Award* recipients are **Angela Grace McGill** and **Keith D. McInnis**.

Angela Grace McGill lived in the Carson Stout, Clara Cox, Springfield and Daniel Brooks' communities of the High Point Housing Authority from 1968 – 74, 1980 – 88 and 1997 – 1998.

Ms. McGill was deeply affected by the stereotyping of residents of Public Housing and has always persevered to be her very best. She has diligently worked to not only overcome the stigma attached to Public Housing and its residents, but to demonstrate to her children and those she encounter a different life achieved through hard work and determination.

Ms. McGill lives by the philosophy that you should never use your past to determine your future unless it is the catalyst for self-sufficiency and upward mobility. She is proof that your tomorrow does not have to be like your yesterday. More importantly, she demonstrates it is not

where you start but where you finish. She also wants to leave a legacy for her children and residents of Public Housing that it does not matter where you come from but where you are going and what passion is driving you there.

She is the mother of three children, Dymaan Flores, Daniel Flores, and Maya McGill, and the grandmother of two granddaughters, Tatiyana Flores and Angelina Flores.

Educationally, she received her high school diploma in Gainesville, Florida, certification from Brookstone College and served in the U.S. Army prior to attending High Point University where she received both her Bachelor of Science Degree and MBA in Business Administration.

In 2003, Ms. McGill began her career with the High Point Housing Authority, the agency that administered the Public Housing programs in which she was reared. She worked her way up from an Executive Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer prior to serving as the Executive Director of the Rockingham Housing Authority, in Rockingham, NC.

Additionally, she has served on various commissions and boards which include the following: City of High Point Human Relations Commission, Chair; Total Family Focus Board, Vice Chair; YWCA of Greater High Point, Board member; High Point University Alumni, Board member; American Red Cross High Point-Thomasville Chapter, Board member. She also serves on the Carolina Council of Code and Redevelopment Officials (CCHRCO) Commissioners Support Services & Commissioner Conference Committee.

Ms. McGill is a recipient of the 2009 Business Woman Extraordinaire of High Point, NC and Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities and graduated from Leadership High Point, City Government 101, and is a member of National Association of Female Executives.

Keith D. McInnis lived in the Clara Cox and Daniel Brooks Communities from 1973 – 1983. He served proudly in the United States Marine Corps after graduating from Ragsdale High School.

Mr. McInnis' academic accomplishments include: Bachelor of Science degree (History) Lees McRae College; Master in Education degree (Secondary Education) Milligan College and Educational Specialist degree (Administration and Supervision); and is currently a Doctoral Student at Walden University. During his college tenure, he was honored as "Who's Who among Students in American Colleges and Universities" and is a member of North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE).

Mr. McInnis is currently employed with Winston Salem Forsyth County Schools. He works diligently with the administrative team and performs various other administrative duties and cultural activities in the Forsyth County School System. His employment experiences have allowed him to receive immeasurable experiences in various communities. According to Mr. McInnis, "I look forward to sharing my enthusiasm, specialized training, creativity and professional experience with the *Pillars of Fame* committee and the HPHA communities." He contributes his success to the good and bad experiences of residing in Public Housing in addition to the loving support of his dear mother.

He is a proud father of three wonderful little boys: Keith D. McInnis Jr. (KJ), Gabriel McInnis (Gabe) and Mitchell McInnis (Mitch). Mr. McInnis is a member of Calvary Covenant Fellowship (CCF) in High Point led by Dr. Kelvin Shouse, Elder Allen and Deacon Dawkins.

Mr. McInnis' future plans are to be the best father he can be and continue to make the community a better place to live.

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners and the High Point Housing Authority staff, Rachael S. Matthews, Interim Chief Executive Officer for the High Point Housing Authority, congratulates Ms. McGill and Mr. McInnis. “Both of our honorees this year are pillars of our community who exemplify strength, integrity and wisdom. It is an honor to recognize them with their induction onto our *Pillars of Fame* as we continue to strive to build a better future for leaders of the next generation.”

The *Pillars of Fame Award Ceremony* will be held at Astor Dowdy Towers, 701 E. Green Street, High Point, NC 27260 on September 22, 2010 at 12:00 noon and the entire community is invited to the event!

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