



EVETTE HESTER
New Orleans, LA

SUMMARY

Strategic Planning, Asset Management, Economic Development

- A seasoned professional who has led large, diverse teams of professionals to new levels of success in the affordable housing industry for over 30 years by introducing cutting-edge strategies and fostering productive, fast-paced work environments.
- Strong technical and business qualifications with an impressive track record of hands-on experience in strategic planning, business unit development and project management.
- Proven ability to successfully analyze an organization's critical business activities, identify deficiencies and potential opportunities.
- Developing innovative and cost-effective solutions for enhancing effectiveness of affordable housing programs has led to successes in increasing revenues and improving customer service offerings at the housing authorities.

SYNOPSIS OF RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS/EXPERIENCE

- Accumulated substantial reserves.
- Reduced \$7 million-dollar OPED liability.
- Re-branding agency-new mission and vision.
- Completely renovated two communities.
- Designated as a high performer.
- Accumulated \$14 million in reserves.
- Established non-profit.
- Removed "troubled" designation.
- Developed comprehensive strategic plan.
- Acquired property to relocate main office.
- Established performance-based program metrics.
- Tripled the housing choice voucher program size.
- Obtained \$8 million from city for infrastructure.
- Self-developed 40 units of public housing.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF NEW ORLEANS (HANO)

New Orleans, LA

Executive Director

2019 to present

Executive leader over largest affordable housing provider in the state of Louisiana with combined operating budgets over \$230 million; responsible for overseeing all day-to-day operations of a diversified affordable housing portfolio serving over 40,000 persons in the greater New Orleans region; provide leadership for long-range planning to preserve and expand affordable housing; provide expertise to ensure the financial health and stability of the organization while capitalizing on opportunities for financial growth; expand and preserve community partnerships to access resources needed to invest in human capital; and works closely with the New Orleans Mayor, local and state elected officials, and federal housing representatives to drive the vision of HANO.

MONTGOMERY HOUSING AUTHORITY

Montgomery, AL

Executive Director

2007 to 2019

Provided executive leadership and supervision for assisted housing programs by creating three distinct business units (public housing, assisted housing and development modernization) serving over 4,400 families, 80 employees with a cumulative budget in excess of \$50 million; develop short and long-term strategic plans using financial forecasts, risk analyses, market data (trends) and best practices to ensure the long-term viability of assets; develop staffing plans and training programs to stabilize the workforce; develop investment strategies to maximize returns and promote economic development activities; create policies that strengthen the foundation of the organization; develop supportive service programs and public safety initiatives to promote independence and community responsibility; plan, direct and oversee development and modernization activities with budgets in excess of \$30 million to create competitive affordable housing



options while securing its long term viability; leverage resources to redevelop communities; develop and formalize community partnerships; and serve as the Chief Executive Officer, Secretary of the Montgomery Housing Authority Board of Commissioners and Contracting Officer.

HOUSTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

Houston, TX
2003 to 2007

Vice President, Housing Operations

Provided leadership and supervision for the public housing program with over 5,000 assisted housing dwelling units in 18 communities and 200 scattered-site properties; provided supervision to over 50 employees directly and 200 indirectly, including admissions, maintenance, client (social) services and public safety; provided leadership and guidance on modernization and developing activities, including but not limited to ensuring products were being built in accordance with expectations; set goals and benchmarks for each department; developed policies and procedures and performance measurement tools; supervised property management and public safety contracts (and indirectly the performance of its employees); developed staffing plans and training programs; monitored expenditures for the department; created public safety strategies; and developed economic development, social and recreational programs for public housing residents.

PHILADELPHIA HOUSING AUTHORITY

Philadelphia, PA
2002 to 2003

Assistant General Manager

Developed comprehensive plans and programs to improve facilities and economic conditions for public-and-assisted housing residents; develop policies and strategies to meet goals under PHAS; monitor and supervise relocation and admissions activities; prepare staffing plans and operational budgets; conduct research to record trends, evaluate efficiency and institute corrective action or formulate change; and develop staffing plans and training programs.

CHESTER HOUSING AUTHORITY

Chester, PA
1997 to 2002

Deputy Executive Director/Chief Operating Officer

Provided leadership and supervision to seven departments including public housing, Section 8, police, maintenance, modernization & development, human resources, finance & accounting, and community relations; monitored and controlled expenditures for various budgets; developed policy and procedures for 2,700 assisted housing units in a troubled housing authority in order to comply with federal regulations and evaluations (PHAS and PHMAP); directed and monitored modernization and development activities using HOPE VI and MROP funds which resulted in demolishing and rebuilding four public housing communities; developed personnel policies, hierarchical structure and procedural manuals for day to day operations of the Authority; negotiated, reviewed and executed various contracts including collective bargaining agreements, management agreement regulating and operating agreements; served as Executive Director's representative; and ensured that programs comply with federally mandated regulations.

EDUCATION

MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, Baltimore, MD

Master of Business Administration, 1991

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, College Park, MD

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Public Administration, 1987

TRAINING

New Orleans Regional Leadership Institute, graduate

New Orleans Regional Leadership Institute, graduate

Leadership Montgomery, graduate

CERTIFICATION

Certified Public Housing Manager

AFFILIATIONS

National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, member

International Committee of NAHRO – Committee Member



Evette Hester
Resume

Council of Large Public Housing Authorities, member
New Orleans Chamber of Commerce, member
Public Housing Authorities Director's Association, member
Women in Business, Board Member
Boy Scouts of America, Board Member

