



July 2009

# Housing for New Hope News

Share thoughts. Ask questions.  
Be informed.

Become a FAN of  
Housing for New Hope.  
Join us on Facebook!

## Williams Square Breaks Ground

On Tuesday, June 23, more than eighty people gathered to celebrate the groundbreaking of Housing for New Hope's Williams Square Apartments, twenty-four apartments and a community center for homeless individuals with disabling conditions. The expected occupancy date is early 2010.

Williams Square is a response to the urgent need for more permanent supportive housing for this population. It is named in memory of Alphonso Williams, who was a tireless advocate for the homeless and a beloved member of the Housing for New Hope family.

At the ceremony, Sam Whitted, board member and president of the alumni association, announced that the alumni, formerly homeless graduates of Housing for New Hope's programs, have committed \$2,000 to support Williams Square. Durham City Council member Mike Woodard also made a personal contribution at the event.



Sam Whitted and Alphonso's daughters open the door to a new future for the homeless.

## You're Invited to Breakfast

Housing for New Hope's inspirational breakfast is an opportunity to acknowledge achievement, recognize the work that lies ahead, and raise money for a very important cause.

Last year's breakfast was attended by 300 individuals, who pledged and donated more than \$90,000 to help prevent and end homelessness in our community.

**The one-hour breakfast is free of charge and will take place Friday, July 17, at 7:45 a.m., at Ivy Community Center in Durham. Seating is limited and going fast.**

For more information and to reserve a seat, please contact Eric Breit at (919) 724-0578 or [eric@housingfornewhope.org](mailto:eric@housingfornewhope.org). RSVP by Wednesday, July 8.

## We're Almost There

Housing for New Hope has raised \$2.1 million for Williams Square. \$100,000 is still needed to furnish apartments, outfit the community center, and purchase the solar water-heating systems.

## Opening Doors Campaign



For more information about the Opening Doors Campaign, please visit [www.housingfornewhope.org](http://www.housingfornewhope.org).

## Alphonso's Open Door by Kim Arrington

*In many homes, fear drips like sparkly tinsel  
scattered bony branch to pine branch.*

*In hidden corners we own  
dancing dreams,  
daffodils,  
defeating darkness.*

*Uncertain, unseen, untethered  
is Alphonso's open door.*

*In the City of Bulls, zags the welcoming-warm  
reservoir.*

*In hidden corners we own  
Tickled tambourines,  
tiaras,  
temporary tunnels.*

*Ransom, return, recovery  
is Alphonso's open door.*

*If a house can be framed,  
let Alphonso's shoulders  
support sturdy shingles.*

*If a house can be occupied,  
let Alphonso's arms part  
encircling each inhabitant.*

*If a life can be sewn back together,  
let Alphonso's hands spread  
becoming the pincushion,  
the peacock's plume.*

*If a heart can be questioned,  
let Alphonso's laugh resound  
like a swinging lightbulb.*

*With one sweep of his life,  
Alphonso kept me from  
wasps' stings and cloudy disbelief.*

*As we raise and raise and raise  
William Square Apartments,  
let us remember Alphonso teaching us  
to curve our willing backs into his open door.*

Housing for New Hope thanks Ms. Arrington for contributing this poem and reading it at the groundbreaking ceremony.

[www.housingfornewhope.org](http://www.housingfornewhope.org)