

## WHA News of the Day

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#### WILSON HOUSING AUTHORITY RECOGNIZED BY HUD AS HIGH PERFORMING

WILSON, NC– The Wilson Housing Authority has received 90 of 100 points from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for its Public Housing Assessment System evaluation, resulting in the Agency being certified as “High Performing,” for the fourth time in five years President/CEO Edward R. Jagnandan announced today.

Every year, HUD measures the performance of public housing agencies that manage public housing communities. Through the PHAS system the taxpayers get an accounting of how each agency is managing these resources across these four perspectives:

- The physical condition of the housing;
- The financial management of the subsidy;
- The property (asset) management; and
- The use and management of the agency’s Capital Funding

Wilson Housing Authority’s leadership is understandably pleased with the announcement. “Since HUD is transitioning to a new formulation in how points are awarded, many housing authorities expected to see their points drop in areas where they previously had been very strong, but the Wilson Housing Authority staff has once again demonstrated a strong commitment to quality and excellence in their performance,” said Edward R. Jagnandan, President and CEO of the Housing Authority.

The high performing numbers are especially important this year because Wilson is a candidate for funding under HUD’s Choice Neighborhood Initiative – a massive revitalization program that (if funded) will target the Center City area of Wilson.

“With our strong management scores and great partnership with the City of Wilson, we are very optimistic about our chances for winning this grant funding,” Jagnandan said.

Center City has a poverty rate of over 50 percent and an unemployment rate of 46 percent. Despite the neighborhood distress, the area has several key assets including new residential and commercial developments, a planned park and greenway that will tie the Whitfield site to a major new recreational area traversing much of the city, the city Transit Center and Amtrak station, a recreation center, early education center, community college and the planned Whirligig Park.