

A TRIBUTE TO HENRY AND SARAH FITZBUTLER – LOUISVILLE’S 1ST AFRICAN AMERICAN PHYSICIANS

To help celebrate Black History Month, we would like to honor Sarah and Henry Fitzbutler, whose residence was in the area that later became Beecher Terrace.

Henry Fitzbutler (1837-1901) was born in Virginia, where his enslaved father was a coachman, and his mother was an indentured servant from England. His parents escaped through the Underground Railroad to Essex County, Canada in the early 1840s. In 1866, Henry married Sarah Helen McCurdy, daughter of a prominent livestock farmer. Henry attended medical school in Detroit and, in 1869, became the first African-American graduate of the Detroit Medical College. He continued



Mr. Henry Fitzbutler



Mrs. Sarah Fitzbutler

his studies at the University of Michigan School of Medicine and became its first African-American graduate in 1872.

After graduation, Henry and Sarah moved to Louisville. Henry went on to become Louisville’s first African-American physician and had a thriving medical practice. The Fitzbutlers were also active in promoting equal education opportunities. The four medical schools in Louisville at that time were closed to African-Americans, so Henry secured a charter from the Kentucky Legislature and organized the city’s first medical school to accept African-Americans. He led the Louisville National Medical College as Dean and was majority owner for the rest of his life. It became the best United States African-American medical college, and the only one owned and operated entirely by African-Americans. To further the Fitzbutlers’ involvement in social and political issues, Henry founded, edited and published The Ohio Falls Express, a newspaper focused on the African-American community.


Once their children were grown, Sarah entered the College, and became the first African-American woman to receive a medical degree in Kentucky. She became the superintendent of the College’s auxiliary hospital and supervised its nursing program. After Henry’s death, she continued to lead the College and its hospital until both closed in 1912. Sarah also operated a demanding medical practice that provided enormous amounts of charitable care in West Louisville. She died in 1922 in Chicago, where she had moved to be with her family after retirement.

Source: Tobin M.D., G. R. (n.d.) Fitzbutler College. Retrieved from <http://louisville.edu/medicine/studentaffairs/student-involvement/advisory-colleges-1/fitzbutler-college>

BEECHER TERRACE HOTLINE

Have a question about Beecher Terrace or the Russell Choice Neighborhood initiatives? Call 569-4972. Or, if your question or concern is related to one of the topics listed below, you may also call the direct number.


INQUIRES	CONTACT
Leasing	Wendy Osborne LMHA 569-4972
Relocation	Kathy Head LMHA 569-3479
Supportive Services	Ta’Londa Holland Urban Strategies 384-0786
General Info (Beecher, Choice)	Choice Office LMHA 569-3454
Employment – For Beecher/Russell residents who HAVE completed the Section 3 employment form	Call, text 276-5008 or email updates Section3@lmha1.org
– For Beecher/Russell residents who have NOT completed the Section 3 employment form	Urban Strategies 384-0786
– NON-Beecher/Russell residents	Kentucky Career Center 600 Cedar Street



The Beecher Report

Community is the foundation fo the bigger picture

FEBRUARY 2019



BEECHER TERRACE RELOCATION: THE FINAL PHASE



Excitement builds at the January relocation meeting.

The last relocation phase of Beecher Terrace households has officially begun, and LMHA relocation specialists have begun meeting with the 168 families living in Buildings 1 through 20.

Many of these families attended the January 28th Relocation Orientation meeting at the Baxter Community Center. Attendees were provided with information about their upcoming moves, including the benefits and resources available to them during the relocation process.

Details were also provided on the relocation options available to Beecher Terrace households which includes:

- Another public housing unit, including scattered sites,
- A Section 8 voucher, or
- A Privately Managed Hope VI Development

Residents may also choose to move to a market-rate unit. Beecher residents who are interested in homeownership may be eligible for down payment assistance and other resources that could help them with purchasing a home, such as LMHA’s Section 8 Homeownership program.

At the meeting, residents were also reminded that they have a life-time preference for Beecher Terrace replacement units and that the only criteria to return is to be lease compliant at the time they relocate and to remain lease compliant.

Case management and other support services will continue to be available during and after relocation, and any member of the household can begin receiving these services throughout the grant period. For additional information about case management and other support services, contact Urban Strategies at (502) 384-0786.

For questions regarding replacement housing choices or relocation services, please contact Kathy Head with LMHA at (502) 569-3479.



SECTION 3 JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The Section 3 program requires that recipients of certain types of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding, such as the Choice Neighborhood grant, provide training, employment and other economic opportunities to low-income residents and to the businesses that employ them. Economic development opportunities that benefit Beecher Terrace and Russell residents, including job creation and training, is an important part of the Choice Neighborhood initiative. Therefore, we will be working throughout the Choice grant period to connect residents to the new Section 3 jobs and training opportunities that will be coming available.

Section 3 employment opportunities will be offered using the following priority order:

- Beecher Terrace residents (including relocated residents)
- Other persons living in Russell
- Other LMHA public housing residents
- YouthBuild Louisville program residents
- Persons who fall below the federal poverty guidelines and reside within the Metro Louisville boundaries

URBAN STRATEGIES IS ON THE MOVE

Urban Strategies, Inc. (USI) is on the move!!! On February 20th USI will be relocating from their current location to the Baxter Community Center, 1125 Cedar Court.

USI will be hosting an Open House sometime in March to share their new space with residents and community partners. USI's phone number will remain the same after the move, so please continue to call 502-384-0786.

If you are interested in Section 3 opportunities and have already completed a screening form, LMHA has your information on file. When contractors and sub-contractors are hiring, LMHA will provide them with the names of Section 3 eligible residents who have the specified skills, in the priority order outlined above. Jobs could be at Beecher or in other areas of the community. LMHA and USI can also help connect you to training opportunities that could help you develop the skills needed for these jobs.

To ensure that LMHA, contractors and subcontractors are able to reach you, please keep LMHA updated with any changes in your contact information. You can send any updates to your address, phone number(s) and/or email address to section3@lmha1.org or by text or voice to 502-276-5008.

TARC PARTNER PASSES

As one of the many partners involved in the implementation of the Vision Russell Transformation Plan (VRTP).

TARC is offering passes to improve residents' ability to access to services and jobs.

Beecher Terrace residents who lived on the site on or after June 28, 2016, or current Russell residents can obtain a 30-day TARC Pass to:

- Commute to their current jobs,
- Attend school or a training program, and/or
- Conduct a job search

Anyone seeking to obtain or renew their TARC pass for their job search must work with a USI case manager who will also support your employment search. For more information about the Partner Pass program, please call Urban Strategies' office at 502-384-0786 or contact your case manager.



JCPS's NEWEST SATELLITE OFFICE AT SHAWNEE



*Rose Livingston,
CEO & Director,
The Beech, Inc.*

JCPS has opened its second satellite office at the Academy of Shawnee, 4018 W. Market Street. The office, open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., offers tutoring, employment assistance, GED classes and much more.

In addition to JCPS staff, the satellite office is home to several community service providers, including The Beech, Inc. The Beech recently relocated to the Academy of Shawnee from its original home at Beecher Terrace, and will continue to offer after-school tutoring to children living in Russell and other nearby neighborhoods. In addition to helping students successfully transition to work and postsecondary education, The Beech also works with parents to empower them with the skills they need to support their child's learning and development. Rose Livingston, founder of The Beech, hopes to move back to Beecher Terrace once redevelopment is complete. "We are a committed partner to Russell's revitalization, and excited about working with the community to develop plans for a new state-of-the-art center" said Livingston.

The satellite offices at Shawnee and the California Community Center, which opened last year, are part of JCPS's commitment to create equitable opportunities for families to access resources for support. JCPS's satellite offices may be reached by calling 502-485-6787 or 502-485-6790, or by emailing haigler@jefferson.kyschools.us or donald.diller@jefferson.kyschools.us.

NEW CASE MANAGER: SHANNON PETERSEN

Urban Strategies, Inc. is pleased to welcome Shannon Petersen, our newest team member. Shannon will be working with the USI team as part of a collaboration with Louisville Metro Government Office of Resiliency and Community Services. Shannon will primarily work with Beecher Terrace residents who have a history with the justice system and/or have faced struggles related to re-integration into the community following incarceration.

Shannon is originally from Michigan and graduated from Michigan State University, (GO GREEN), with a degree in Criminal Justice. She moved from North Carolina to Louisville in 2009 to work with people experiencing homelessness. Shannon then shifted her attention to working with persons who had experienced some contact with the criminal justice system.



This experience has helped her gain an understanding of the many struggles, barriers, and limitations that individuals face when experiencing homelessness or involved in the criminal justice system, as well as their resiliency.

In addition to her position with USI, Shannon volunteers and advocates with local entities dedicated to addressing homelessness. She enjoys the simple and free things in life, and will engage anyone who likes to talk about professional football. She also enjoys kicking back to watch a good movie or to binge watch Netflix.