



# The Open Door

## Ability Housing of Northeast Florida

Quarterly eNewsletter

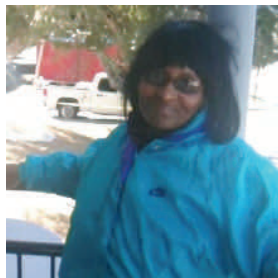
### Issue 1-2011

#### Greetings!

We would like to thank you for your continued support and keep you up to date with our latest efforts in fulfilling our mission.

## Transforming Mayfair Village

Having a safe, stable place to live is the foundation for success for any family. Ability Housing is transforming Mayfair Village Apartments into that place for 83 families. "When we bought Mayfair Village we immediately began improving the property while making it available to formerly homeless individuals and families; but we knew we had to find the funding to renovate the property. Now that renovation has begun." stated executive director Shannon Nazworth. "We're very excited about the impact it will have on the people living here, as well as the community."



"I've lived in Mayfair Village since 1980 and I've noticed a lot of great changes within this community since Ability Housing has taken over the property... My new apartment is gorgeous. I love the color inside as well as outside. I'm so excited to have brand new appliances, cabinets, counter tops and floors. And the bathroom is just beautiful." - Mayfair resident

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#### Resident's Corner



Mr. Francisco was homeless. He'd been living at the IM Sulzbacher Center for the Homeless for five months and didn't have much hope of finding an affordable place to live. That was until he moved into Mayfair Village Apartments. Mr. Francisco has been living at Mayfair for almost a year and a half. In that time he has seen a

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Mayfair Village is an 83-unit apartment community located on Jacksonville's Southside. It has all the qualities important for an affordable, rental property - ideal location, a covered bus stop at its entrance, a grocery store across the street, employment opportunities in close proximity, easy access to downtown, and multiple affordable shopping opportunities nearby.

Now Ability Housing is completely restoring the property to like-new condition: structural and roof repairs, mechanical systems, cabinetry, and finishes. The first building is already completed, with all units occupied. "This is my first time having a brand new home. Everything is so nice and beautiful." said Mr. Francisco of his new unit. Six more buildings are in construction with residents eagerly awaiting their opportunity to move into a new apartment of their own.



*"I can't believe the change. So many Jacksonville residents have a personal connection to Mayfair. Seeing it returned to such a quality place to live is wonderful."*

Ability Housing is the only nonprofit organization in Jacksonville focused on creating permanent housing options for our community's most at-risk and vulnerable citizens.

**Please support these efforts by contributing to the Mayfair Village project. Your tax deductible donation will create quality housing permanently available to formerly homeless families. To make a donation please visit our website at [www.abilityhousing.org](http://www.abilityhousing.org)**

Ability Housing will again be participating in THE PLAYERS Birdies for Charity. The participant that guess closest to the actual number of birdies made in the 2011 THE PLAYERS will win a trip for two to the 2011 Presidents Cup in Melbourne, Australia. Prize includes round trip airfare for two, 7 night accommodations at the Team Hotel, VIP tickets to the 2011 Presidents Cup, and Invitation to Presidents Cup Black-Tie Gala.



Ability Housing supporters will also be eligible to win a custom-fit driver from Masterfit Golf and a foursome at The Ponte Vedra Inn & Club. For more information and to submit your guess visit our website and click on the Birdies icon.

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remarkable transformation—in both and himself and the property.

Mayfair Village has transformed from a property with significant deferred maintenance concerns to a community undergoing complete rehabilitation. Mr. Francisco has transformed from a person without a place to live to a man with a home of his own - and a job working for a contractor rehabilitating the very apartment complex at which he lives. This month Mr. Francisco moved into one of the newly renovated apartments. "This is my first time having a brand new apartment. Everything is so nice and beautiful."

**To see interviews of Mr. Francisco and other residents please visit our YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/user/AbilityHousing](http://www.youtube.com/user/AbilityHousing)**

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