



# PHFA's Housing Services Department **Best Practices**

## **Chambersburg Family Townhomes/ Paint Nights**

**Categories:** Development Performance & Resident Participation

**Outcomes:** When residents create with other residents, a connection to those people is formed, creating a sense of community and decreasing visible signs of stress-levels of participants.

**Program Components:** Paint nights are made available to residents and their children using the website [www.paintingparties.com](http://www.paintingparties.com) and You Tube videos that offer free video instruction. Videos and websites are available for group viewing by using a smart TV that has internet access or by using an HDMI cable to connect a laptop/ desktop computer to a TV or projector. The video provides a list of necessary supplies including canvas size, types of paint brushes and paint colors. Instead of purchasing canvases, the inside of a cut up cereal box can be used. Cut the box so that it will fit in a picture frame.



During class, volunteers refill paint palettes, and provide fresh water and paper towels. If only one volunteer is available, it is best to keep the class size to approximately 10 people. If possible having personal instruction along with the video tutorial improves the event.

The program started as an adult paint night, and is scheduled to be expanded to include a "parent-n-me" class. This is where parent and child each paint a picture that when placed side-by-side creates a new/larger painting.

**Partnerships:** Possible partnership could include art councils, university art programs or groups interested in donating or lending supplies.

**Program Promotion:** Service Coordinator promoted the event using flyers and newsletter.

**Background:** Property is a 40 unit townhouse family development, financed with Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) and ARRA Exchange funding.

**Service Coordinator:** Kandy Kane, 717.762.7117  
[KKane@fcha.net](mailto:KKane@fcha.net)

**Management Agent:** Franklin County Housing Authority

**Investment in Services:** The staff at the property is paid out of the property's operating budget. Source of funding for the supplies is in the annual operating budget.

### **RESULTS**

**Visible** reduction in residents' stress-levels

**Children & adults creating and expressing themselves in a positive manner**, less likely to express themselves in destructive behaviors, helping to preserve the asset

For more information,  
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