

## The Tassel: October 2013/Charlotte Housing Authority Scholarship Fund

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**Sent:** Tuesday, October 29, 2013 3:05 PM

**To:** [sjohnston@tueforumct.org](mailto:sjohnston@tueforumct.org)

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October 2013



## The Tassel

### Give a Youth a Chance!

Jobs and Mentors needed



2013 CHASF Recipients and Graduates

The Charlotte Housing Authority Scholarship Fund (CHASF) continues to celebrate its 30th Anniversary and as we move into the final quarter of 2013, we are excited about the commitment our recipients are making to continue their education.

To wrap up this year and prepare our scholars for 2014, CHASF is exploring how to expand job-shadowing, mentoring opportunities; and identify potential summer jobs and permanent full-time positions. We instill in our young people that it's never too early to begin planning for their careers and getting a head-start now will increase their options in the future.

If your company or you are interested in partnering

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Jobs needed  
CHASF You-tube Video  
Phil Tappy: Volunteer  
Alumna Bria E. Graham

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<http://youtu.be/H3fleS7fSdg>

If your company or you are interested in partnering with us in these areas, please feel free to contact **Millard McCluney or Faith Triggs at 704-572-7987.**

Thanks for "Giving a Youth a Chance!"

## CHASF Volunteer Spotlight: Phil Tappy



Phil Tappy with CHASF Alumnus Albert "AB" Blake and his wife, Michelle and their daughter, Sterling, age 2 and son, Spencer, age 4.

Phil Tappy always had a drive to help kids in any way possible and as a result, the Charlotte Housing Authority Scholarship Fund (CHASF) has been a part of his life for nearly three decades. A visit from CHASF Founder John Crawford to Trinity Presbyterian Church (where Tappy worshipped) sparked a friendship. When Crawford spoke about helping children in public housing go to college, Tappy jumped at the chance.

Tappy started mentoring a 10th grader by the name of Albert "AB" Blake. At that time, Blake was a resident of Fairview homes and Tappy took him under his wing. "I mentored Albert all through high school," Tappy said. "He went on to [North Carolina] A&T and is now working for the Pentagon." Blake and Tappy's relationship has remained close for the 25 years they have known each other including Tappy being a member of Blake's wedding party!

Tappy said his favorite memory about the scholarship fund was the "reward of seeing kids be the first in their family to go to college, graduate and become successful." Although Blake has been Tappy's only mentee through CHASF, his support for the fund continues and has since the early days.

Tappy acknowledges Bill White (CHASF Chair Emeritus) and John Richards (Past CHASF Chair) for being the dynamic leaders who helped Crawford's efforts in funding student-residents of Charlotte's public housing. Tappy believes the scholarship fund will get bigger and bigger with each year. And, now that his son Skip Tappy serves along with Crawford on the CHASF Board, the elder Tappy has truly created a family affair.

Thank you Phil Tappy for being a long-time supporter of the Charlotte Housing Authority Scholarship Fund. We look forward to your continued support as we send more Charlotte area youth off to college!

*Article compiled by CHASF Intern Jasmyn Mack.*

## CHASF Scholar Profile: Bria E. Graham

**Name:** Bria E. Graham.

**College:** North Carolina A&T State University,  
CHASF class of 2015.

**Job:** Research Assistant for the Agribusiness Department of the Agricultural and Environmental School.

**Favorite CHASF memory?**

My favorite CHASF memory was when I received my scholarship and walked across the stage at the ceremony.

**Who do you admire most and why?**

I admire myself the most because I am at a point in my life where I have so many opportunities and I am willing to do whatever it takes to be successful.



Bria E. Graham.

**What's your favorite food?**

I don't have a particular food that I favor, but I like anything spicy.

**What type of music do you like?**

Indie, Indie rock, Urban, Pop, some Country, Acoustic, Jazz, Reggae, and everything else that sounds good to my ears.

**What's your favorite movie or TV show?**

Sponge Bob, Adventure Time, Eve's Bayou.

**What's the last good book you read?**

The Power of Positive Thinking.

**If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go?**

Cape Verde - because the people, scenery, culture and climate are beautiful.

**Where do you volunteer?**

My grandma's house, her friend's house, church, Urban Ministries of Greensboro, YMCA, and around my school (NCAT).

**What are your favorite hobbies?**

Helping others, learning, dancing, fashion design, cooking and spending time with my mother.

**What do you hope to achieve over the next 5 - 10 years?**

Since I'm an Agriculture Education/ Agriscience major, I would like to travel the world teaching underprivileged countries about natural resources and bio-disposable products. I want to also better the water supply and cultivation in other countries.

**What's the best advice you ever received?**

Be yourself and let others follow.

**Favorite quote and who said it?**

"Failure is not an option." - *Gene Kranz (Apollo 13)*

## Speakers Bureau

The Charlotte Housing Authority Scholarship Fund changes lives and if you have an event where you'd like to hear from our Founder, students or alumni, please contact us and we'd be glad to have someone come out to address your group.

For more information please contact:  
Faith Triggs, Director of Development:  
704-572-7987 or [email](#).

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