

5/18/2020

Members of the Jacksonville Housing Authority Board

Good Afternoon.

My name is Sarah Wilson-Kraft. As a resident of a Jacksonville Housing Authority property, I would like to use this opportunity to raise my voice in support Mr. Alexander and also pose several questions.

I have spoken to you before in regards to Centennial Townhomes West being tented for termites. I am here again to speak on behalf of something I do not quite understand...

Mr. Alexander has been the Interim CEO of the Jacksonville Housing Authority for well over a year and in that time he has made himself available during Resident Relations meetings to speak personally with residents in regards to their questions and/or complaints, he has attended Council meetings at various sites when asked, and has extended the option to speak directly with him via phone or in person to any resident that would like to do so.

I personally reached out to Mr. Alexander about something our site was missing: computers and internet access for our residents. We are a public housing community and many of our residents can- not afford a personal computer or internet in their homes. When I brought this to the attention of Mr. Alexander, he went to work on it right away and within 4 days he found 2 computers, a printer, and had our community center wired for internet access. Within the first week of this being put in, I personally helped 3 residents do job searches and type resumes for submittal.

My hope in raising my voice is that you as the Board, will see that Mr. Alexander is who the Jacksonville Housing Authority residents want and deserve as our CEO. Mr. Alexander is the person the Jacksonville Housing Authority needs as their CEO.

Question: As the Board, do you not want a person in the CEO position that the residents feel comfortable having a conversation with, a person that the residents respect, and a person that ensures that what needs to be done is done?

As I have previously stated, I live in Centennial Townhomes West, directly across the street. As you, the Board members, are making decisions about how funds are being appropriated, why have I never seen you on the grounds?

I would personally like to extend an invitation for any and or all of you to visit my home, and see where \$30,000 could be better put to use than hiring a law firm to help in a search for a position that in our, the residents, minds has already been filled.

Question: Why have you not permanently placed Mr. Alexander into the CEO position and began looking for his Assistant? Do the residents have any voice in this matter? Do the residents of the Jacksonville Housing Authority have the opportunity to sit down and have a conversation with the Board? A round table, if you will. As I do appreciate the 2 minutes I am allowed to

Speak to you, I, as well as many other residents, would much prefer to look into the eyes of the people that I am speaking to and have a two-way conversation.

Thank you for your time.

Sarah Wilson-Kraft