



MEDIA RELEASE

340 Thomas Boulevard, Orange, New Jersey

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HURRICANE SANDY KNOCKS OUT VILLAGE POWER, BUT SPIRIT OF COOPERATION SURVIVES!

Undergoing its first storm - one of historic magnitude - The Dr. Walter G. Alexander Village responds to the resulting power outage with an immediate "call to action". OHDC Board Members, and OHDC, President, Walter G. McNeil, Jr., Ph.D. quickly addressed the situation by putting an emergency plan into effect. The first action item was to visit each resident, assess conditions and offer assistance - from transportation to securing shelter. Flashlights and batteries were purchased for residents. OHA worked with the Orange Emergency Service to ensure three meals were provided daily; while the WGA Village Community Room was turned into a safe haven, where battery powered space heaters were fired up, allowing residents to retreat for warmth. In addition, blankets, water, and non-perishable items were made available, in efforts to assure residents a sense of comfort and security.

WGA Village, Property Management Team oversaw an operation that tracked residents living off the property and those still remaining at WGA Village. Once power was restored, residents living off premise were immediately notified. Management worked to provide FEMA information that would assist residents. In addition to increased 24 hour security, Mayor Dwayne Warren directed the City of Orange Fire Department to assist with temporary lighting for senior parking lots.

In the aftermath. OHDC Board Members and The Alpert Group, Property Management Rep., Faith Moore hosted a housing meeting to address the power outage and future methods to deal with power outages on Tuesday, November 13th

"It is imperative that residents know that residents recognize that management has an invested interest in making sure that resident's safety and quality of life is a top priority for us." – OHDC President, Walter McNeil, Jr., Ph.D.