

Signature Form

Rhodes College students want to hear your stories about Cleaborn Homes and Memphis over the years. Students are conducting these interviews as part the Crossroads to Freedom website and for the HOPEVI housing evaluation.


If you choose to be featured on the Crossroads to Freedom Website (www.crossroadstofreedom.org), your interview will be a historical record of life in Cleaborn Homes. Your interview, along with pictures, newspaper clippings, and other interviews will be posted on the website as part of the Cleaborn Homes Collection. This will help preserve the history of Cleaborn Homes and the surrounding neighborhood. We will provide you with a DVD copy of your interview to share with family and friends.

If you decide not to participate in the Crossroads to Freedom website, your interview will not be filmed, but will be tape recorded. You can remain anonymous, which means that your name will not be connected to the stories you share. Your interview will only be part of the public HOPE VI housing evaluation conducted by Dr. Heather Jamerson. Your responses will help us study public housing in Memphis and understand how public housing can be better for its residents. Follow up interviews will take place in 2013 and 2015 to see how your housing situation changes after leaving Cleaborn Homes.

To thank you for sharing your experience as a former Cleaborn Homes resident, Rhodes College will give you a \$50 gift card. Rhodes College will also provide transportation to and from the interview OR reimburse you \$10 for the cost of gas of your personal car.

Your participation is completely voluntary, meaning that you can choose not to participate at any time. If you agree to participate, please sign and date this form below.

DARRELL BURNS (printed name)

 (signature)

2-27-11 (date)

HOPE VI Evaluation/Crossroads to Freedom Interview Guide

Summer 2011

Demographics

What is your name?

Darrell Burns

How old are you?

34

Do you have any children? Ages?

7 children: 18 10 9 months
17 8
13 6

How long did you live in Cleaborn Homes? [what year did you move in?]

Since late 70s - off & on
moved 64 demolition

How did you come to live in Cleaborn Homes?

grandma & mom
he was born there

Who lived in your Cleaborn Homes apartment with you while you lived there?

& 2 uncles

mom, grandma

Change over time

What was it like when you first moved in?

fun went to elementary school there
Vance 7-9
BTW

When you first moved in how did you feel about living there?

crime & drugs increasing in early 90s
entire neighborhood

How would you say it changed while you lived there?

schools & businesses shut down
lost its value
constantly changing

[Prompts: How did the physical conditions of the buildings change? How did your relationships with the other people change? How did your relationship with the police in the neighborhood change over time?]

Were there changes in the overall neighborhood that you noticed while living there? [schools, factories closing, businesses, churches, social service agencies]

Employment

Were you ever employed while you lived at Cleaborn Homes?

cook at Applebee's

If yes, where and how did you get the job at X? [word of mouth, friends, family from people inside or outside Cleaborn Homes]

walked in

Was this job full time or parttime?

In that job, did you have any experience with working with Unions? (Explain.)

No, no experience

How did you travel to work everyday?

bus - poplar & highland?
1 hr ride

How did you balance your job and taking care of household responsibilities (like childcare)?

had 2 kids @ 15
family helped w/ them

Community

Did living in Cleaborn Homes ever feel like living in a community to you?

yes, they for each other
knew each other

Were there any neighborhood traditions (festivals, block parties)?

BBQs
B-day parties

Who were the people you trusted?

Were there people that you relied upon for support?

Sometimes - someone to talk to

What types of support did people offer you?



[Prompts: Could you share about the type of emotional support you offered each other? Can you share about time that you relied on each other for financial support? Support with family responsibilities such as childcare or transportation?]

Did you and the people in your community ever trade goods or services without using money? [doing each other's hair, cooking for each other, TV/car repair]

No

How did you get your community's news or gossip?

passed around, everyone talked

Family

Did you and your family feel safe living there? Can you explain.

Yes, I big family
everyone in a unit knew each other

What kinds of activities did you do as a family when your children were little?

play games, swimming pool, parks

I have heard by other people that living in a place like Cleaborn Homes creates a strong sense of

responsibility for all the children who lived there. For instance, all the mothers share the responsibility for discipline or support for all the children living there. How would you say the children of the Cleaborn

Homes community were raised? Did the adults share responsibility for taking care of the children?

other parents looked at for him

Leadership and Outsiders

What did you like best about living in Cleaborn Homes?

family, community

What would you say were some of the biggest challenges of living there?

times got tough - borrow a little \$

Who would you say were the leaders in the Cleaborn Homes community?

No

What kind of leadership did they provide? [What kinds of issues did they fight for? Against whom?]

How successful were they or Cleaborn Homes residents more generally in getting support from the

Memphis Housing Authority (about security, home repairs, etc.)?

grandma did most of the stuff,
if needed something fixed it
would get taken care of

Do you feel like there were ever people who came and meddled in your community without being welcome there? (e.g., reseachers, preachers, housing authority leaders, social service agencies). Can you share an example of this?

No

Moving from Cleaborn Homes

How did you feel when you first learned about the plan to demolish Cleaborn Homes?

sick, worried about friends
he would like to move back

[Prompts: sad, excited, afraid: If afraid, what made you the most fearful of leaving? If sad, what was the

saddest part of leaving? If excited, what made you most excited about leaving? ETC.]

Did you feel that you were given enough information and support to move away?

[If no, what kind of information or support would have been helpful?]

Did you feel like you trusted MHA to take care of your needs and give you accurate information during the relocation process?

Are you still in contact with people who lived in Cleaborn Homes? How do you communicate with each

other? Do you still rely upon each other for support?

Yes

What are your hopes for yourself and your family now that you live away from Cleaborn Homes?

[If between the ages of 19 and 64 then ask the following questions:]

Have you been offered any case management to assist you in meeting these personal goals? (Has

anyone from Memphis HOPE ever contacted you with information about programs that might help you

meet your goals)

If no, what types of case management support would be helpful to you?