

Richmond

"Where there is no vision, the people perish..." Proverbs 29:18



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Barrett Terrace Apartments and Barrett Plaza Townhomes Best Kept Secrets

If you are seeking riches, read the testimonies of the "Barrett's Best Kept Secrets," which are our children and teenagers, living here at the Barrett Terrace Apartments and Barrett Plaza Townhomes.

Amaris Mercia: I'm 14 years old and in the 10th grade. I've been part of the Barrett Leadership Program, since I was nine-years old. I currently, hold the title of President of the Leadership Mentoring Program. My family and I have been living here at the Barrett's for about seven years, now. We've heard gunshots, witnessed car crashes, people getting arrested, and much more. I honestly, thought that nothing would get better or change. However, all that doubt I had in the beginning is now slowly fading away. I now have the opportunity to be creative, learn leadership life skills, and provide organized events for my peers through the Barrett Resident Service Community Center programs and activities. Being part of a program where I get to work with kids, and being able to put smiles on their faces is an amazing feeling. Watching the kids play, smile express themselves, and have fun is what makes me happy. If it wasn't for my mom, I would not be here today. If it wasn't for her, I would not be getting straight A's and B's, and hold-



Left to right: Asiah Dailey - City of Richmond YouthWorker, Angel Escalante - Barrett Leadership, Marquan Russell - City of Richmond YouthWorker, far back Charlie Webb - City of Richmond YouthWorker, Amaris Scales - Barrett Leadership President, Ashton Holmes - Barrett Leadership, Taelon Hill City of Richmond - YouthWorker far back, bottom row Barrett and Community children, helped promote. Photo by Joe L. Fisher.

ing a 4.0, G.P.A. My mother made me into the person I am today and I'm extremely grateful. I work hard, because I want to be a leader and an inspiration to the kids. I'm currently work-

ing with through the Barrett Summer Leadership Assistant Program, as a Summer Leader. This year was the first year I received a stipend for working as a Girls, Inc. Summer Assistant.

My dream is to graduate with continued Honors and strive to make a difference in the community of the City of Rich-

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mond and around the world.

Charlie Webb: I'm a 17-year-old set to graduate with the class of 2019. I attend John F. Kennedy High School. My overall GPA is a 3.75. My goal, after I graduate, is to continue my education at either Michigan State or Texas A&M. I will major in Computer Science, and after college I will work at Google. I'm proud to say that my home over the last 14 years has been the Barrett's. Growing up and living here is easy and fun. But there were a few people who bullied other kids. I made a lot of friends when I was little and a lot I still talk to many of them today. I learned how to have an organized schedule and how to entertain kids all day long through the City of Richmond YouthWorkers Program and the Barrett Summer Leadership Assistant Program. It is an honor to work where I live. When I turn 18, I will apply here again and I hope kids had as much fun as I did.

My name is **Taelon**, I am 18

years old. I have been working for the City of Richmond YouthWorks Summer Program for the second straight year in which Ms. Janine, my mentor, has helped me. I have known her for about four years now, but have lived in the Barrett's for almost 11 years now. Also, I graduated high school this year from Sylvester Greenwood Academy. Ever since I was around the age of seven, I have wanted to play in the NFL. But others have said I must have a backup plan. My plan B is to become a successful demolition constructionist and to retire in my early to middle forties. But don't be surprised if you see me on Sports Center. If I had the opportunity to participate in an NFL Training Camp, I would jump at the opportunity. I would love it and maybe use it as a first step to opening doors later on in life.

My name is **Asiah**. I'm a resident of the Barrett Terrace Apartments. I currently work at the Barrett Summer Youth Program, through the City of Richmond, YouthWorks, as a Barrett

Summer Leadership Assistant. I enjoy working, where I live. I'm an Honor Graduate of Kennedy High School, with a G.P.A. of 5.0. I ran track and field. The 100-meter hurdlers was my best event. After my journey of going to State in Track, I was awarded a full-ride scholarship to Jackson State University (The University of Tigers). I am majoring in Pre-Med, with plans to get my doctor's degree and then become a neonatal nurse. Being in a community like this, there are a lot of struggles and distractions, but with a strong head on your shoulders, anything is possible. My quote that got me through a lot of hard times my first year of college and just life in general, was "Time is to precious, never give up, if you have a purpose to life, why not give it your all."

Hi, I'm **Marquan Russell**, and I love working with kids at the Barrett's, over the summer. Being apart of City of Richmond, YouthWorks, and the Barrett Summer Leadership Assistant, has taught me a lot about my community and how

everyone is free to be who they are and to express themselves. Ever since I moved back from Fresno to the Bay, I've learned a lot about myself. Taking care of kids can be rewarding, but I tend to be mindful of the kids and myself. Working hard is one of my passions, also, being a great leader requires good enthusiasm. I'm trying my best to become a good role model to the Barrett kids and show them that I care for them. I thank YouthWorks and Ms. Janine, for giving me this job opportunity, so I can become a good leader.

A special thanks to North Richmond Community Housing Development Corporation and Community Housing Economic Development Corporation, for the continued support for the youth living at the Barrett Terrace Apartments and Barrett Plaza Townhomes.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor or help support our Youth and Teens, with getting closer to their dreams, please contact Janine Shaheed, Senior Resident Service Coordinator at (510) 255-9203.

the confusing parts of white people say to black people. It's a book black people, but Hugh recommends that you it around because that always gonna be so body next.

The first thing you r to know might be the n important: how not to shot. To start, learn I to "comply with po orders," because b people, says Hughley, "very target-y-lookin If you're a mind-read that's good; that's w you really need to be.

Look online and yo see that white people h made it simple: "Do break the law and won't get shot." Ot things you might wan remember: Don't use y pockets. Don't reach fo weapon, a driver's licen or dreams. Anything look like a gun, so do carry anything, ever, at time.

"Do be an angel," understand that things v still get "twisted" to m

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Returning for