

# Community *focus*

## From Homeless to Homeowner

To put it mildly, Winford Blair has had a difficult year. An elderly man with a monthly income that barely exceeds \$750, he could hardly afford the basic necessities of life and his monthly utilities. Out of desperation, Mr. Blair allowed the homeowner's insurance policy on his older model single-wide manufactured home to expire last year. Shortly thereafter, the home was destroyed in a fire that claimed nearly everything that Mr. Blair owned. His pride would not allow him to seek help from his family and friends, so Mr. Blair made the difficult decision to live for the next year in his automobile. Finally, in March of 2007, Mr. Blair visited the offices of HOMES in Whitesburg, KY. Immediately recognizing the need to serve this gentleman, HOMES began the process of counseling and pre-qualifying Mr. Blair for a mortgage loan. FAHE received a pre-application on Mr. Blair in late July and submitted the loan to KHC for an MRB Trust Fund/Rural Development loan. When the house was completed on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, HOMES allowed Mr. Blair to begin occupying the property while the loan was continuing to be processed. The loan closed in mid-September. As a result of this partnership between HOMES, FAHE and KHC, Winford Blair has gone from homeless to homeowner!

## FAHE MEMBER RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD



Eastern Kentucky University's College of Business and Technology, Kentucky Highlands Investment Corp. and The Center for Rural Development presented the 2007 Excellence in Entrepreneurship Award for a Non-Profit Business to FAHE Member Beattyville Housing & Development Corp. Established in 2001, this award acknowledges excellence in entrepreneurship throughout Eastern and Southern Kentucky in four categories – Business, Small Business, Start-Up, and Non-Profit Business – and is determined by the economic success of the enterprise, contributions to the community, job creation and operational achievement as measured by innovative business practices, superior safety achievement and superior technology.

*Community Focus is a quarterly newsletter for FAHE investors. For more information on our programs or making an investment:*



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