

## **UniverSoul Circus Comes to CMHA**

Hundreds of CMHA children were treated to two preview performances of the UniverSoul Circus this past week. Performers ranging from clowns to contortionists put on a pair of spectacular shows for CMHA at Lakeview and Outhwaite developments.

"It was wonderful," said Carolyn Gaiter, who helped to organize the event. "The performers were great. The children - their eyes just told the story. It was just perfect."

The towering stilt-walkers, Caribbean dancers, leaping dogs, and bicycling acrobats of the show made the performance something that attendees will not soon forget. With each opportunity for audience participation, dozens of children jumped to their feet for the chance to be a part of the show.

The performances were brought to CMHA largely due to the efforts of CMHA Board Commissioner Doris V. Jones, PAC President Lillian Davis and CMHA Self Sufficiency Coordinator Jackie Mills. Working with local promotional show coordinator Sonya Hampton, the team was able to bring the UniverSoul Circus to CMHA for the first time. Many other individuals, including CMHA Asset Management Director Carolyn Gaiter, CMHA Chief of Police Andres Gonzales, CMHA Self-Sufficiency Manager Kristie Groves, and CMHA Asset Management Special Assistant Marian Stewart, played a pivotal role in making the event a phenomenal success.

The UniverSoul Circus is a cultural circus extravaganza that performs in cities all across the United States. With performers from around the globe, the circus's full show features trapeze artists, tigers and tight-rope walkers. The group performs preview shows at schools and other organizations in the cities they are touring, offering a snippet of what to expect from the full act.