


# FOCUS

SPRING 2013

A publication of Juliette Fowler Homes, Inc.

Vol. 31, No.1

## Visionary Women



**JOIN US!**

**CELEBRATE VISIONARY  
WOMEN THEN AND NOW!**

**Visionary Women Luncheon  
Honoring Ebby Halliday**

Friday, May 10, 2013

Dallas Omni Hotel

**Guest Speaker**

Missy Buchanan, Author

**Honorary Luncheon Chair**

Marti Carlin

**Luncheon Chair**

Julie Sheridan

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*Benefiting Juliette Fowler Homes*

# My Visionary Woman



*By Sabrina Porter, President and CEO of Juliette Fowler Homes, Inc.*

Her name was Miss Faye, and she is the Visionary Woman in my life.

I met Miss Faye at a tough time during a tough childhood; I was 12-years-old, the oldest of three children, with a mother who was leaving an abusive situation.

To support us, my mother became the office manager at a small nursing home in San Antonio, Texas. To help make ends meet—and to keep me occupied—my mother arranged for me to become an assistant to the nurse’s aide, working the 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. shift—the shift worked by Miss Faye.

An African-American woman in her late 60s with leathery skin and gray hair, Miss Faye took me under her wing and taught me how to care for the elderly - her way - not as patients, but in the way of a servant-leader.

Miss Faye spared me no shortcuts. If I put on bed linens sloppily or failed to tuck in the corners neat and crisp, Miss Faye would strip the sheets in one motion, toss them into the middle of the bed and tell me to do it right the first time. I learned to do it right, the first time, from Miss Faye.

She taught me how to speak and

treat “our guests” as if they were our own family members—by never talking down to them or as if they were children, regardless of their physical or social abilities and cognitive status.

Shortly after I started “working” with Miss Faye, my mother became overwhelmed by raising three children by herself—my little brother was only two-years old—and Miss Faye invited me to live at her apartment two blocks from the nursing home. My mother approved and I moved in with Miss Faye for nearly two years.

Miss Faye wasn’t much for smiling—she grew up in Vidor, Texas when Vidor was a tough place in Deep East Texas for people of color—but she was always compassionate and respectful of others, regardless of how she was treated.

As I grew older, my passion for working with the elderly grew, and I decided to train to become a certified activity director, with the goal of becoming a social worker. I asked Miss Faye for her opinion, perhaps, even her blessing.

“Do you want to do it?” asked Miss Faye, who had but a third-grade education. “Then, yes. You can do it. You can do anything you put your mind to doin’.”

I didn’t have a glamorous mentor. I had one of the most humble servant-leaders, Miss Faye, and it was she—and all the people I’ve cared for and come to love, over the years—who taught me everything I know. Miss Faye taught me:

1. To respect and serve others regardless of their backgrounds, stage or condition in life. To do for the least of these.

2. To believe in myself.
  3. To show humility no matter how successful.
  4. To share my life experiences with others when they might be of help.
- Eventually, I left the small nursing home where Miss Faye forever changed my life, and I lost track of her.

Years later, I became the administrator of a large senior care



**Miss Faye**

facility. One day, a caller requested to speak only to me, not the admissions office. Upon taking the call, I learned of her request

– to care for her elderly aunt who was suffering from dementia. I was the only one she could trust.

For the last four years of her life, Miss Faye came “home” to be with me at our care center, and our staff there—like our staff here at Juliette Fowler Homes—treated Miss Faye like a beloved member of our family.

In her final years, Miss Faye didn’t remember much of our early years together, but she recognized me and her eyes—deep set in a face that looked to be a century old—called me by name just as they did when I was a wounded teen-aged girl.

Miss Faye went to be with God at the age of 82.

To this day, I hear the voice of Miss Faye, the voice of my Visionary Woman.

“Yes,” she tells me. “Do you want to do it? You can do anything you put your mind to doin’!”

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

*Benefiting Juliette Fowler Homes*

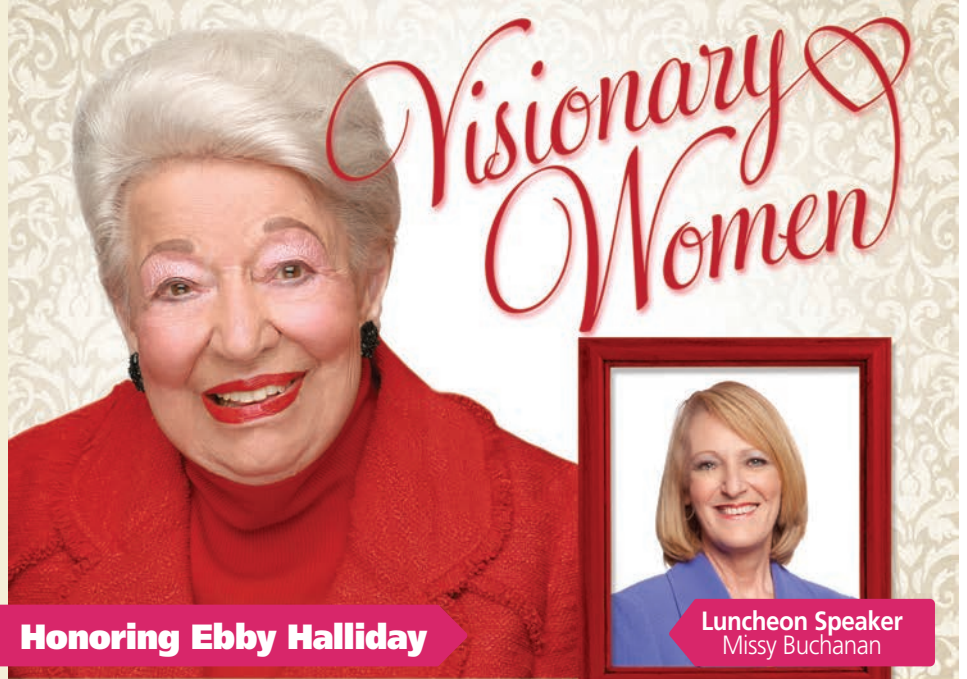
## Ebby Halliday to be honored at Visionary Women Luncheon

More than one hundred and twenty years ago, Juliette Peak Fowler envisioned a place that would care for the orphans and aged of her city. Before her dream was fulfilled, she died leaving an estate of \$4,000 and 16.5 acres in East Dallas. Her sister, Sarah Peak Harwood, fulfilled Juliette's dream and Juliette Fowler Homes was chartered in 1892. Juliette's vision has endured and continues to evolve to meet the changing needs of the older adults and foster children served by Fowler today.

On May 10, 2013, at the Visionary Women Luncheon at the Omni Dallas Hotel, we will honor another visionary woman, Ebby Halliday, who has helped countless families find homes. A member of Central Christian Church in Dallas, Ebby's legendary entrepreneurship and philanthropic leadership have made a momentous impact in our community.

Visionaries surround us at work, at home and in our communities. Join Honorary Chair, Marti Carlin, and Luncheon Chair, Julie Sheridan, to celebrate the many visionary women in our midst. Our guest speaker will be Missy Buchanan, who co-authored "My Story, My Song" with Robin Roberts, co-anchor of *Good Morning America* and Robin's mother, Lucimarian Roberts. Ron Corning, news anchor at WFAA-TV, will emcee.

Join us to celebrate visionary women, honor Ebby Halliday, and support Juliette Fowler Homes. For more information, call Casey Power at 214.515.1342 or email [caseyp@fowlerhomes.org](mailto:caseyp@fowlerhomes.org).



**Honoring Ebby Halliday**

**Luncheon Speaker**  
Missy Buchanan

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**Luncheon Committee:** Bottom Row, Pam Coit, Julie Sheridan [Chair], Marianna Thiebaud, Cindy Wabner, Tammy Vines, David Pennybacker. Top Row, Clare Haislip, Ann Jones, Bonni Brophy.

# For Fowler Foster Mother, Life Comes Full Circle

*Juliette Fowler Homes serves children through a foster care program. One of our foster families lives on the Fowler campus. Below is an excerpt from the inspirational story of our resident foster mother.*

My name is Michelle Baker, and I am married to the love of my life, Ronnie. We have raised three wonderful children of our own, now 22, 23 and 25, and we have one granddaughter.

Currently, we are foster parents, and we are living our dream! What is our dream? To make a difference in the lives of children and to enrich their future; to plant new seeds of hope in the children for whom we open our home and hearts; to pray each seed we plant with them will grow and flourish and develop new outcomes for their future.

I know personally about foster care because the best parents a child could have, adopted me.

Jim and Charlotte Eisenberg

first began mentoring unwed mothers in 1956. In 1961, the Eisenberg's became the first foster family for Dallas' Hope Cottage.

Between 1961 and 1964, the Eisenbergs fostered 126 newborns and small infants, caring for them until they were legally adopted. During this time, they also adopted two children deemed "unadoptable" due to mental and physical disabilities to join two biological children.

Over the next 12 years, the Eisenbergs mentored another 40 children in group homes, fostered another 45 children and adopted six others—for a total of 10 children. I was one of those children, adopted in 1969.

In 1994, my dad passed away, and in 2010, my mom passed. Their legacy was—and is—the love and care of children.

Which brings me full circle. My husband and I are blessed to continue

where my parents left off, growing a legacy of our own.

We did not realize this was our calling until there was a need within our extended family, and so we became "kinship caregivers."

Shortly thereafter, we completed the training and program requirements of "Fostering Connections" and became licensed foster parents. God expanded our dream when we relocated to the JFH campus where we foster on a larger scale. Every day, Ronnie and I give thanks to God for the opportunity to serve His children—in the way I was served.

*With your help, we are able to serve children in need. If you have prayerfully considered the calling to foster or foster-to-adopt a child, please call 214.827.0813 extension 1373 to learn more.*

## A snapshot of Dallas County in 2012:

- 5,107 confirmed victims of child abuse/neglect
- 984 children removed from their homes
- 2,465 children in foster care
- 833 foster homes



Top photo: Michelle and her mother, Charlotte  
Bottom photo: Ronnie and Michelle Baker

# Teresa Whittington & Nicole Gann

Teresa Whittington and Nicole Gann have joined Juliette Fowler Homes as COO and CFO respectively. They bring with them a wide breadth of experience in aging services and healthcare. But the strongest qualifiers for their positions may have been their eyes for good stewardship, their heart for servant leadership and their barometer for doing what is right. Below are excerpts of a recent interview where they shared their vision for Juliette Fowler Homes.

► **Who has influenced you the most in your life?**

**TW:** My parents - they taught me to work hard, be kind to others and to love your family.

**NG:** My parents - they taught me humility, generosity, and respect of others.

► **How would you characterize your style of leadership?**

**TW:** Teacher. I try to instill the importance of standards and best practices and to always treat others as I would want to be treated.

**NG:** Coach. Not many things thrill me more than assisting someone in seeing and reaching their full potential

► **What qualities do you look for in your team?**

**TW:** I look for a positive attitude, quest for excellence, and commitment to team and goals.

**NG:** Passion. Some folks are passionate about who we serve, some love numbers, some love chocolate. I just look for those who can describe some type of passion. You can teach skills. You can't teach passion – it's experienced.

► **What is your vision for Juliette Fowler Homes?**

**TW:** To be an innovative leader in which choice, community and connection are paramount.

**NG:** To be sustainable. I want to honor the spirit of Juliette Fowler and Sarah Harwood by implementing sound business practices so that we will be around for another 120 years.



**Teresa Whittington, RN, BSN**

**Hometown:** Half Moon Bay, CA

**Education:**

RN – University of Arkansas;

BSN – University of Phoenix

**Family:** Married to Roy for 30 years; sons, Roy (27) and Chase (25)



**Nicole Gann, MS, SPHR**

**Hometown:** Bogalusa, LA

**Education:**

BBA – University of Texas Arlington;

MSHRD – University of Texas Tyler

**Family:** Married to Steve for 21 years



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# Fowler Christian Apartments receives **federal HUD grant** for new “Housing with Services” apartments to meet growing demand

Fowler Christian Apartments [FCA] has received a \$2.4 million grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to develop accessible apartments at its East Dallas campus.

FCA is the only senior care retirement community in Texas designated as a recipient for a



## The results are in!

The recent annual health and license survey at FCA supports what we already knew – FCA is a quality place to live. Each year, the state licensing team inspects FCA and reviews policies, procedures and resident files. The surveyors also interview residents and staff. We are pleased to share that FCA received **zero deficiencies** on their health and license survey – well done team!

“Housing with Services” grant from HUD’s Assisted Living Conversion Program. Texas was one of nine states to receive a total of \$26 million in HUD grant funds for use in 2013.

The funds will be used to convert some apartments at FCA into service-enriched homes. Such modified-living spaces allow residents to live independently longer in their homes at FCA, and receive the needed assistance of home healthcare, meals, transportation, laundry and housekeeping.

“We’re thrilled to be a recipient of these funds to help our Fowler Christian Apartment residents live on their own longer and have a more fulfilled life,” said Billie Sproul, executive director of FCA.

“Housing with Services” funds will be used to make modifications to existing apartments, changes such as larger bathrooms and “wide open” living areas for easier wheelchair and scooter access.

In 2011, FCA was awarded a \$3.75 million grant to build an additional building that will be home to 36 residents. Construction on that new apartment building will begin Spring 2013.

## Fowler Welcomes New Medical Directors

Dr. Steven Bray and Dr. Grady Goodwin have joined Juliette Fowler as Medical Directors. Both physicians specialize in transitional care medicine and are associated with Questcare and Baylor University Medical Center.

As Fowler’s medical directors, Drs. Bray and Goodwin will coordinate the medical care of short-stay rehab guests, providing oversight of their care plan and promoting excellent clinical quality. Long-term residents may also choose them as their personal physician.

Dr. Bray completed his Internal Medicine residency at Vanderbilt



STEVEN BRAY, M.D.

Medical Center in Nashville and medical school at UT Southwestern Medical School in Dallas. An active member of Lakepoint Church in Rockwall, Dr. Bray enjoys

fishing, gardening and playing golf.

Dr. Goodwin began his career as a CPA before entering medical



GRADY GOODWIN, M.D.

school and completing his Internal Medicine residency at Baylor. He and his wife, Dr. Tara Goodwin, have three children. Dr. Goodwin’s personal interests include golf,

fishing and spending time with family and friends.

We are thrilled to have their expertise on our team.

# For Fowler's Rehabilitation Services Program, the Goal is Clear: Resuming Life to the Fullest

With aging comes wisdom and experience and, some times, increased risk of illness or injury that may affect independence and quality of life.

The good news is that wellness is often achieved through physical rehabilitation. Juliette Fowler Homes offers short-stay rehabilitation care for those recovering from an injury, illness or surgery.

"Our goal at Fowler, and what sets us apart, is to get our guests home and avoid another hospital readmission." said Hilary Byatt, a speech-language pathologist who oversees Fowler's rehab program.

Juliette Fowler's team of licensed professionals has the knowledge to assist you or your loved one in resuming the highest possible level of independent lifestyle. Fowler offers Physical, Occupational and Speech-Language therapy rehabilitation services—each with specific objectives, Hilary said.

Last June, Pamela Townsend of Dallas had hip replacement surgery and chose Fowler's rehabilitation program. During her stay at Fowler, Pamela underwent physical and occupational therapy.

"The therapists were just great with me," Pamela said. "I went from not being able to move much at all, to a wheelchair, to a walker and then to cane. I had to re-learn how to walk."

Fowler's rehab program is pro-active and includes a comprehensive home assessment.

The assessment allows Fowler therapists to create an individual care plan for each guest based on what their home environment actually is like—and simulate that environment during therapy treatment. A home assessment is usually done the first week a patient is admitted, so that treatment strategies are "real life" when the patient is discharged.

For example, if a client's bed is 18 inches off the floor, therapists design therapy strategies based on that height. If there are stairs in a patient's home, patients work the stairs in Fowler's state-of-the-art therapy room. If kitchen shelves are high, therapists work with patients in an actual kitchen environment in the treatment center.

To measure Pamela's progress toward going home, Fowler therapists used a scoring tool that graded her ability to complete 14 necessary tasks. The therapists were able to recommend her discharge when the total score indicated she would likely be successful at home.

The Fowler home assessment also recommends ways patients might consider modifying their home for better safety. Accidents and falls are primary reasons older adults end up in the hospital. The assessment, which examines 147 risk factors, often leads to safety modifications such as bathroom railings, skid-free flooring and the removal of throw rugs.

In addition to the professional team of therapists and best-in-class therapy facilities, Fowler offers beautifully-furnished accommodations and amenities. Private and shared suites feature individual climate control, tile and granite baths and patio gardens. Dining services, worship services and salon/barber services are available on-site. Life enrichment programs such as music and pet therapy are available to further enhance a guest's stay.



Fowler rehab guest, Pamela Townsend and therapist, Dee Bradshaw PT, discuss Pam's rehabilitation success.



Pamela Townsend reunites with her Fowler therapists Robbie Bell PTA, Dee Bradshaw PT, and Doug Delaney, COTA.

Pamela was a Fowler guest for four months; the average short-term stay at Fowler's rehabilitation center is 30 to 35 days. When not in therapy, Pamela said she enjoyed playing bridge and socializing with others. "The facilities and the people were just wonderful," Pamela said. "I joke that they are so good that it's been hard to adjust to being back at home. I recommend Fowler for anyone who needs rehab services."

# Thank You For Your Support 1.1.12 to 12.31.12

*We are grateful to all those who choose to support Juliette Fowler Homes. Your gifts make a difference!*

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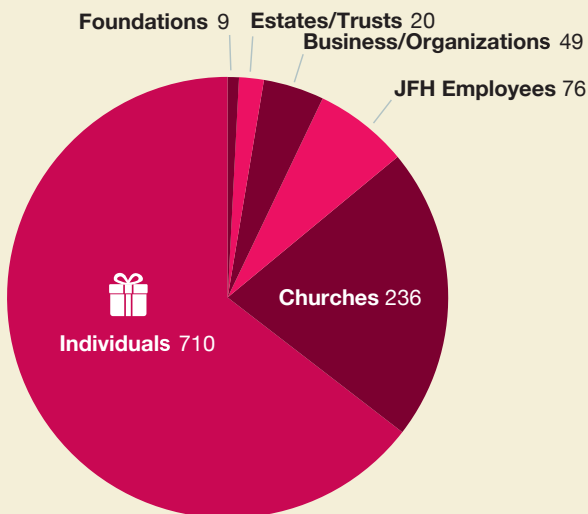
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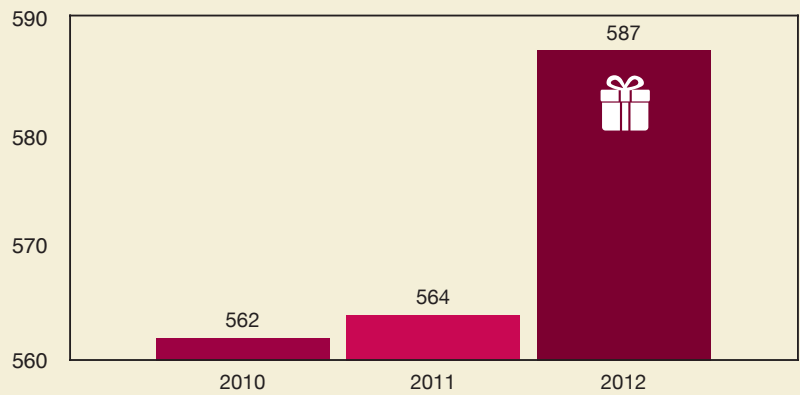
# 2012 Annual Report

We are grateful for the support of so many who recognize the need to help those who cannot help themselves. Thank you for your prayers, your gifts, and your service.

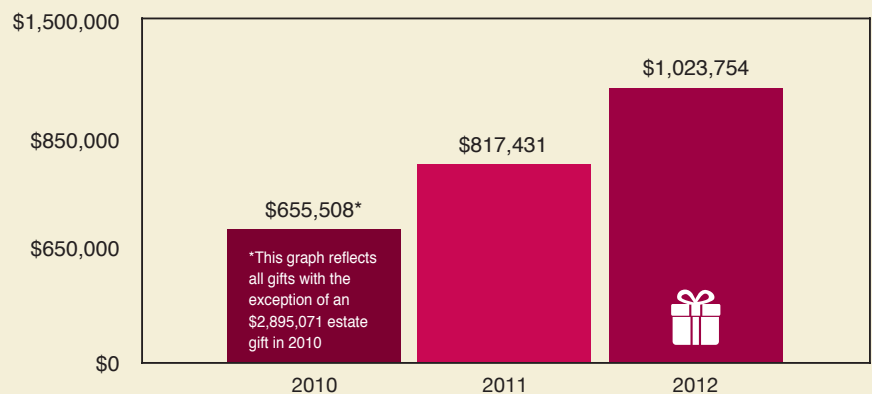
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*QUALITY TIME: Students from St. John's Episcopal School spend 2 hours per week at Fowler for their Service Learning experience.*



*THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT: The Boogie Woogie Bugle Girls from Studio B in Dallas wowed us!*



*AN IRISH BLESSING: Resident Tom Crabb enjoys a St. Patrick's Day visit from granddaughter, Macy Crabb.*



*NEIGHBORS: Juliette Fowler Partners Building is the 2013 Costume House for Woodrow Wilson High School musical, "Anything Goes". Woodrow moms are sewing costumes day and night as students stream in for fittings.*