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### **Jobs program aids public-housing residents**

By Sharon Waters  
*Staff Writer*

New Brunswick: The City's Housing Authority will provide funding so eight public-housing residents can participate in a new program to help them land union construction jobs in the city.

New Beginnings, a four-week program, provides enhanced preparation for jobs, support services and placement assistance for construction trade jobs, said C. Roy Epps, President of the Civic League of Greater New Brunswick. The program includes individual service plans and follow-up evaluation over one year, he said.

Epps asked the Housing Authority commissioners for funding at Wednesday night's meeting. The Authority agreed to pay up to \$32,000 so as many as eight public-housing residents can participate. Former New Brunswick Homes residents are also eligible.

Participants must be women or minorities, at least 18 years old, have a high school diploma and be drug-free. They should already have some construction experience.

The New Beginnings program is a collaboration of the Civic League and the New Brunswick Development Corp., which is providing \$100,000 so 25 city residents can participate.

General information about the program is available by calling the Civic League at (732) 247-9066. Applicants from New Brunswick public housing and the former New Brunswick Homes should call the authority at (732) 745-5147 for information.