

**Julien G. Patterson Speaks at the Office of Human Affairs 42nd Annual Awards Banquet**  
May 8, 2008

On May 1, 2008, Mr. Julien G. Patterson, Founder and Chairman, OMNIPLEX World Services Corporation, was the keynote speaker at the Office of Human Affairs 42nd Annual Awards Banquet held at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center in Hampton, VA.

Mr. Patterson spoke to an audience of 500 and discussed the importance of Maximizing Opportunities – Transforming Lives. He spoke on the value of making the most of every opportunity in order to transform the lives of others. In his remarks he offered the observation that in these times of change, people are the “trailblazers and torch carriers” who make the difference through relationships and partnerships. In his speech, he went on to comment that successful partnerships that maximize opportunities and transform lives are about shared vision, commitment to teamwork, and mutual respect. In action they help each person get a real opportunity to reach their potential and participate in the American way of life. Mr Patterson emphasized that these partnerships strengthen and empower individuals, families, and communities.

Mr. Patterson stated, “I feel very strongly that businesses, companies, and employers have a stewardship responsibility to the community beyond providing good jobs. Whether it’s dollars, the volunteer time of employees, or services or products given ‘in kind,’ it is just the right thing to do.” His own company, OMNIPLEX World Services Corporation, was awarded the Virginia Governor’s Volunteerism & Community Service Award for its employee-run Good Samaritan community outreach philanthropic committee, OMNI-Aid.

In closing, Mr. Patterson challenged the audience and staff and members of the Office of Human Affairs to look beyond themselves to the needs of others. He encouraged them to invest their time and resources and take a chance to provide hope, opportunity, and a second chance for others.

The Office of Human Affairs has served the community since 1966, reaching out to thousands of low-income individuals each year by providing programs such as Head Start, Employment Training, Emergency Assistance, Summer Lunch Program, Resource Mothers Program, Clean Comfort for the Homeless, GED Preparation classes, Affordable Housing Programs, Project Discovery, Financial Literacy, and many more. The mission of the Office of Human Affairs is to plan, develop, implement, and evaluate programs that foster self-sufficiency through educational, social, and economic development.