

Dorothy A. Ford was first appointed to the Huntsville Housing Authority Board of Commissioners in 2004, by then Mayor Loretta Spencer. Terms are for five years. She was reappointed to the board by Mayor Tommy Battle in August 2009. Her term would have expired in August 2014.

She was a National Association of Housing & Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) Certified Commissioner.

In addition to her volunteer service as a commissioner, over the years, Mrs. Ford served on the Huntsville Housing Authority Advisory Board, the Residents' Advisory Board, the Council Courts Redevelopment Advisory Board, and numerous other committees and boards.

She was past president of the citywide Resident Management Group and past president, serving three terms, of the Searcy Homes Resident Council.

Mrs. Ford was a community leader and active volunteer throughout her life. She taught and volunteered at schools. Mrs. Ford was also an active key leader and role model with the local Boy Scout Troop 400 and Cub Pack 400. She also organized and led local Girl Scout Troop 1126.

At the time of her death, she was the Committee Chairperson of Boy Scout Troop 400 and Cub Pack 400. Mrs. Ford was a member of the Urban Emphasis Scout Leaders Council. The council is an association of the adult leaders of predominately low-income urban area scout units. The goal of the council is to bring greater emphasis to scouting in the community through a concerted effort.

Mrs. Ford made it possible for all children living in public housing in Huntsville to benefit from the scouting program. She raised the funds required to send the scouts to all district functions, including Summer Camp, Day Camp, all Camporees, and other scheduled functions. She provided the opportunity for each boy or girl to earn all of the funds required to participate in scouting. She supported many youth, especially those from single parent families residing in public housing. Without her support, the children would have been denied the benefits of scouting. She ran a uniform closet. She also washed and ironed uniforms for boys and girls who did not have proper parental support.

Mrs. Ford recruited merit badge counselors, assistant scoutmasters, and committee members for her Girl Scout and Boy Scout units. She coordinated help from service organizations that provide tutoring at all grade levels. She also encouraged service organizations to provide incentives to the scouts for achievements.

She managed a dollar for "GRADES" program that gives the scouts a dollar for each "A" that they make on their report card, and a \$20.00 bonus for significant grade improvements.

Mrs. Ford started a community garden that is used by the Boy Scout troop to earn the Gardening Merit Badge. The garden is known as Boy Scout Troop 400 Community Garden. The garden provides fresh vegetables to the residents of Searcy Homes and the surrounding area. The garden is used to promote scouting and to provide an opportunity for the boys to earn community service hours.

She also helped persuade local merchants and other organizations to donate computers that are equipped with tutorials at all grade levels. All youth in the community are welcomed to use them.

Mrs. Ford cared about her neighbors and the community. Among the many other efforts she undertook, she was the co-founder of the C. L. Hammond-Gus Peavy Food Bank at WDJL Radio Station. She also served on the Boys and Girls Club Board during 2000 and 2001.

She was a devoted mother, grandmother, and a trusted and beloved friend.