

PRESS RELEASE
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BLRA Chairman Howard Fitch Featured in Black NJ Magazine

Fitch celebrated for his devotion to his family and to his community.

Bayonne, September 6, 2005 – Bayonne resident and Bayonne Local Redevelopment Authority (BLRA) Chairman Howard Fitch was recently featured in Black NJ magazine for being a role model in the African-American community.

According to Fitch, “To be a role model you have to participate, to be visible, to want to make a difference.”

That’s why he has always been an integral part of his community. He started his life of public service in 1976 serving on the Educational Task Force for the Bayonne Board of Education, tackling issues of segregation. He served on the Bayonne Zoning Board for 17 years, as both vice-chairman and chairman. He is a member of the Bayonne Chapter of the NAACP (and also a past president) and served on the Board of Trustees for Bayonne Medical Center. In addition, he also serves on the Men’s Usher Board at New Hope Baptist Church in Newark.

“One of the reasons that I volunteer and serve my community is because it’s an excellent way to not only convey your thoughts, opinions and ideas but to get things done.”

“I always felt that I could make a difference in my community and I hope I serve as a role model for others so they know that they can do things and get things done.”

Stating the motivational factors in his life as God, his family and being black, Fitch says he learned most of his valuable lessons of life from his father. One of those was work ethic.

Holding a demanding position with the New Jersey State Lottery as Deputy Director of Sales for Corporate Accounts, Fitch, a graduate of St. Peter’s College



with a degree in Business, says he has have always had an appreciation for sales and felt as though he could sell anything.

In addition to his involvement in the black community and allegiance to the City of Bayonne Fitch holds an unwavering devotion to God and to his family.

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“Family is everything to me,” said Fitch. “We support each other 100% and have a solid relationship. The lines of communication are always open.”

Fitch says he and his wife of many years, Helen, are like bookends, and that she is his “true partner” in life. He added that he is where he is today because of her love and support. Together they raised three children, Donna Marie, Dawn Michelle and Douglas Morgan – all college graduates.

Fitch says he would most like to be remembered as a good person who always helped his family and community. His advice for a good and happy life is to trust and have perseverance. With that, he says, no goal is unattainable.

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