

Reverend Al Sharpton to Speak at 48th Annual Awards Banquet

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Reverend Al Sharpton will deliver the keynote speech at the Office of Human Affairs' (OHA) 48th Annual Awards Banquet in May. Reverend Sharpton joins a long list of distinguished individuals who have spoken at this event, the major annual fund raiser for Community Action Programs on the Virginia Peninsula. Other speakers of note have included Donna Brazile, Judge Glenda Hatchett, Aaron Brooks, Roland Martin and Gene Nichols.

The banquet will be held at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton, Virginia on Thursday, May 22, 2014 at 7:00 PM. This event provides an opportunity for agency supporters and staff to gather and celebrate the vital contributions made by individuals, businesses and organizations in the community. Awards recognizing these contributions will be presented during the evening.

Rev. Al Sharpton is the founder and President of the National Action Network (NAN), a not-for-profit civil rights organization headquartered in Harlem, New York, with over sixty chapters nationwide including a Washington, DC Bureau and regional offices from coast to coast. He is currently the host of a daily television show on MSNBC that analyzes the top political and social news and features the country's leading newsmakers and hosts a nationally syndicated radio show "Keepin it Real" that is heard daily all over the country as well as two weekend radio shows that air in markets within the U.S. He is the author of *The Rejected Stone: Al Sharpton and the Path to American Leadership*.

Under Rev. Sharpton's leadership, NAN has become the most active social justice organization in the country and President Obama echoed this at the 2013 NAN Keepers of the Dream Awards via video when he said: "Thank you Rev. Al and the National Action Network for the work you do to keep up the relentless march for change. When Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was marching for change his vision was one of a country that lived up to the promise of its founding documents and today, 45-years to the day after Dr. King was struck down, it's a vision the National Action Network has carried on as your own, becoming one of America's most forceful voices in the fight for justice and equality."

For 48 years the Office of Human Affairs has partnered with local organizations, agencies and individuals to promote economic justice for low-income residents in the community. The Annual Awards Banquet is a celebration of these partnerships, a recognition of the time, talent and effort that goes into encouraging self-sufficiency in Southeastern Virginia. A donation of \$65 will reserve a seat at the May 22nd event. For more information and to purchase tickets call 757-247-0379 ext. 323.