



**COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT
ASSOCIATION OF SEMINOLE
COUNTY, INC.**

•1101 Pine Avenue •Sanford, FL 32771
HopperAcademy@yahoo.com • www.Facebook.com/HopperAcademy

February 1, 2016

Dear Friend:

Just imagine what we could do in this community by taking a building that was originally set apart for segregation, restoring it to its original condition, and making it a center for bringing the community together. Hopper Academy has stood since 1906 as a reminder and a monument to our collective past; she sits stoically and steadfast with the wisdom of over 100 years. This beautiful building, which was first constructed to educate the colored population during segregation, is now on the cusp of a future, bright and positive, for all people no matter their color or their situation.

Hopper Academy can provide a venue for senior activities, after school programming, a space for tutoring and study and a safe environment to house GED and other self-improvement programs. It can become a center of the community where people gather to stage family events, reunions, weddings, funeral repast, community events, social meetings, job fairs and more. But we need your support!

The Community Improvement Association of Seminole County, Inc., in cooperation with the City of Sanford, applied for and received a \$345,000.00 State Historic Preservation grant. The grant requires \$175,000 in matching funds, but a path to restoration, preservation and completion is clear. This letter is a solicitation on behalf of this historic building. The Community Improvement Association of Seminole County, a 501(c)3 organization, needs help. The restoration efforts for this important building are underway, but without support these efforts will fall short.

Hopper Academy served our communities during a troubled time; it gave education and sanctuary to a youth and a people that had nowhere else to go. Now this historic building, Hopper Academy, needs all of us to come together. Please take some time to consider how your donation will help preserve this history and build a brighter future for all of us. Your tax deductible gift will directly fund the Hopper Academy restoration and its future operation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Rowe". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Charles Rowe, President