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### Developer revives effort to provide student housing in Beaufort

By KATE CERVE  
kcerve@beaufortgazette.com  
843-706-8177  
Published Friday, August 28, 2009  
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Someday, Beaufort college students might have an opportunity to live in university housing within walking or biking distance from their campus, under a plan promoted by developer Dick Stewart.

Stewart, owner of Beaufort-based 303 Associates, invested \$220,000 into a nonprofit organization --Higher Education Housing of Beaufort Inc. -- with the goal of providing affordable housing to students at the Beaufort campuses of the University of South Carolina Beaufort and the Technical College of the Lowcountry."I think there's a real opportunity for our community colleges -- USCB, TCL and others -- to continue to expand their student base," he said. "There are lot of people in the area that need courses but don't have a place to stay."

USCB offers university housing near its Bluffton campus but has no similar amenities in Beaufort. Chancellor Jane Upshaw said offering those amenities will become increasingly important as USCB puts in place a plan to transform its Beaufort location into a niche campus focused on fine arts education.

"As we grow our art program, it will be absolutely critical for our students to have access to appropriate student housing," she said.

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