



HOUSTON
HOUSING AUTHORITY

Transforming Lives & Communities

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HOUSTON HOUSING AUTHORITY RECEIVES FIVE PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS FROM TEXAS CHAPTER OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HOUSING & REDEVELOPMENT OFFICIALS

HOUSTON—The Houston Housing Authority (HHA) was awarded the prestigious Media Recognition, Best Newsletter, Best Other Publications, Resident of the Year and Member of the Year award from the Texas Chapter of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO). The competitive awards are given to housing authorities that demonstrate the highest level of excellence. Texas NAHRO, an organization that promotes quality affordable housing and sustainable communities in Texas through advocacy, education, and empowerment announced the winners at its 38th Annual Conference in Corpus Christi.

“We are proud to receive these awards, which serve as symbols of the hard work and dedication of the Housing Authority staff,” said Houston Housing Authority President & CEO Tory Gunsolley. “We are committed to transforming the lives and communities of those that we serve, we are pleased that Texas NAHRO recognized us for our work.”

HHA received the Media Recognition award for the well executed media coverage on its new smoke-free policy. The Housing Authority held a press conference with Mayor Annise Parker and the city’s Department of Health and Human Services to announce its implementation of a smoke-free policy at its 25 public housing and tax credit properties throughout the city. The new policy took effect on January 1, 2014. The agency received the Best Newsletter award for its public housing newsletter, *The Home Edition*, a quarterly publication that is distributed to its residents and stakeholders. The agency’s *Building Connections*, a quarterly newsletter for landlords participating in its voucher program, received the Best Other Publications award.

The Resident of the Year award is given to exceptional public housing residents who are involved in the community. Texas NAHRO selected the children at Clayton Homes who participated in last year’s Lemonade Day as this year’s Resident of the Year winners. The children at Clayton Homes donated a portion of the proceeds they earned from selling lemonade to the victims of the tornado in Moore, Oklahoma. The Housing Authority applauds its young residents for being positive role models and helping others. The final award presented to HHA, the NAHRO Member of the Year award is given to the person that has

demonstrated commitment, dedication and constructive service to Texas NAHRO, their agency, and community. The Housing Authority's Vice President of Housing Choice Voucher Program Mark Thiele received the Texas NAHRO Member of the Year award.

ABOUT HHA:

The Houston Housing Authority provides affordable homes and services to more than 60,000 low-income Houstonians, including over 17,000 families housed through the Housing Choice Voucher Program and another 5,500 living in 25 public housing and tax credit developments around the city. HHA also administers the nation's third largest voucher program exclusively serving homeless veterans. More information about the Houston Housing Authority can be found at www.housingforhouston.com.

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