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Harris County Housing Authority Receives National Excellence Award for Homeless Veterans Housing Program

HOUSTON, TX (October 27, 2011) — The Harris County Housing Authority (HCHA) has been chosen as a winner of the prestigious National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) Awards of Excellence for its efforts in providing homeless veterans with housing assistance through a unique partnership with the Veterans Affairs Medical Centers.

“By taking advantage of one of the nation’s largest supported housing initiatives, the HUD-VASH (Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing) Program, the HCHA was able to combine permanent housing with case management and medical services that promote stability” said NAHRO President Akinola Popoola.

The HCHA saw the opportunity to participate the in program as a chance to set a national standard of caring for and providing housing for the nation’s bravest citizens. In order to house the most number of veterans, HCHA overcame the potentially lengthy and convoluted application process which would deter applicants by creating a robust toolkit designed to provide answers to any problem-related questions relating to applications.

The Awards of Excellence are nominated from among the Award of Merit winners each year, these Awards are chosen by national juries and presented at the annual National Conference and Exhibition. They represent the very best in innovative programs in assisted housing and community development.

The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, established in 1933, is a membership organization of over 23,000 housing and community development agencies and professionals throughout the United States whose mission is to create affordable housing and safe, viable communities that enhance the quality of life for all Americans, especially those of low- and moderate-income. NAHRO's membership administers more than 3 million housing units for 7.6 million people.

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