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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **HARRIS COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY LAUNCHES INFORMATIVE WEBSITE COMMITTED TO THE PRACTICE OF OPEN GOVERNMENT**

*New website a valuable resource for families, landlords and  
housing authorities across the nation*

**January 25, 2010 (Houston)** – The Harris County Housing Authority (HCHA) is pleased to announce it has launched a new website. This website provides valuable information about its affordable housing programs, current and planned housing developments, and disaster response initiatives. Through the new website, the HCHA has illustrated its complete commitment to open government by offering total transparency and insight into its governing principles. More than just a window into the HCHA's core areas of business, the site is a resource for housing authorities across the nation that wish to replicate the successful initiatives Harris County has implemented locally.

"All good things must evolve in order to grow and prosper" said Guy Rankin, CEO and executive director of the HCHA. "Such has been the case for the HCHA. Our dedicated staff has achieved many feats over the years and as a result, we continue to put forth innovative thinking and fresh ideas to create the best in affordable housing for the residents of Harris County. Our new website is a clear depiction of our evolution of the years."

Visitors to the new site can access detailed information about how to apply for and receive assistance through HCHA's Housing Choice Voucher Program as well as updated information regarding the Disaster Housing Assistance Program. In addition, the site features information about each of the HCHA's six affordable housing communities, as well as new projects that are currently under development.

"We hope other housing authorities will use the repeatable processes we have established here in Harris County to provide the best in affordable housing and disaster response throughout the rest of the county," continued Rankin.

Finally, the new website illustrates HCHA's commitment to providing public access to agency records including Board meeting minutes, audit reports and strategic plans.

"Open government is absolutely needed, not just in Harris County but also nationwide," says Casey Wallace, HCHA board chairman. "We're serving people who are in need of governmental services and because of this, the public needs to know what we're doing and how we are allocating our funds to provide those in need with affordable, decent, sanitary and good housing."

To learn more about the HCHA, visit the new website at [www.hchatexas.org](http://www.hchatexas.org).

### **About the Harris County Housing Authority**

The Harris County Housing Authority operates housing-choice voucher programs and family self-sufficiency programs for more than 4,100 residents of Harris County. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has given the Authority its highest performance rating for six years in a row. For more information on the HCHA, please visit [www.hchatexas.org](http://www.hchatexas.org).

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