



HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

For Informational Purposes

June 4, 2012

Contact: Ana Gamiz

Phone Number: (909) 890-0644 x2531

Email: agamiz@hacsb.com

NAHRO Merit Awards 2012

The Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino (HACSB) has received four Awards of Merit in Housing and Community Development from the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) for the areas outlined below.

- **Vista Del Sol, 71-unit senior development:** HACSB made a concerted effort to address the shortage of affordable senior housing in a blighted, low income neighborhood redevelopment area within the City of Redlands. Working with various partners, navigating funding sources and overcoming many obstacles, HACSB and its non-profit affiliate, Housing Partners I, Inc., celebrated the completion this senior housing community.
- **Strategic Plan for Energy Management:** In a proactive measure to increase energy efficiency, water efficiency and health within out housing portfolio and the broader community, HACSB implemented a strategic plan for energy management. HACSB has utilized the processes established to identify multiple sites that are most optimal for solar panel installation, and proceeded to apply for additional funding through the California Multifamily Affordable Solar Housing program. As a result, approximately 12 additional housing sites have received a rebate reservation from Southern California Edison Company.
- **Procurement Efficiencies:** In a proactive measure to improve efficiencies, reduce costs and promote green initiatives, HACSB implemented a new comprehensive purchase requisition process. The amount of documentation being sent and handled by the finance and procurement departments has been reduced significantly. In addition, the program provides more detailed information that is readily available to key staff.
- **Local Payment Standards:** HACSB has jurisdiction over the largest county in the contiguous United States. As a result of its size, HACSB was challenged with varying rental submarkets across the County and using HUD Fair Market Rents that were not truly reflective of our County's vastly different rental market. In a proactive effort to address these challenges and increase housing opportunities, HACSB updated its payment standards by dividing the county into nine submarkets (regions) that accurately reflect the various market rents in the county.

The purpose of the Merit Award is to give national recognition to innovative housing and community development projects, programs, and services provided by housing authorities throughout the country. The merit awards will be presented in a Special Awards Event on July 29th at the NAHRO summer conference in San Francisco, California.

###

The Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino is one of the nation's most progressive housing authorities in the Country. As the largest provider of affordable housing in the County, we proudly serve in excess of 30,000 people, most of whom are seniors, disabled individuals, and children. We also work on providing our families with the resources, skills, and motivation to achieve their personal goals. For more information on the Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino, please visit www.hacsb.com.