



## NEWS RELEASE

---

Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority

P. O. Box 797, Newport News, VA, 23607 (757) 928-2660

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 15, 2016

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Teresa G. Bennett, Administrative Assistant  
(757) 928-2662

### **NEWPORT NEWS REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY WINS NATIONAL MERIT AWARD FOR FIRST TIME HISPANIC HOMEOWNERSHIP SEMINAR**

Washington, D.C. (July 15, 2016) - The Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority (NNRHA) was chosen as a recipient of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) Awards of Merit: Resident and Client Services for First Time Hispanic Homeownership Seminar.

NNRHA offered a first time Hispanic homeownership seminar on September 20, 2015. The purpose of the seminar was to primarily reach Hispanic clients to encourage, motivate, and educate them on the benefits of homeownership. It was also a great way to promote the FSS, HCV FSS, and HCV homeownership programs. Attendees, heard from a VHDA first time homebuyer instructor, a Realtor, and NNRHA staff who outlined the available opportunities to purchase homes through their Community Development homebuyer programs. A Spanish interpreter was provided to assist with relaying information to those who needed interpretation.

“We hope that the general public, community leaders, private industry and government itself will become inspired to reform and enhance existing housing and community development programs and in addition create new ground-breaking programs and services to meet the housing needs our nation’s most vulnerable citizens.” said, NAHRO Acting CEO John Bohm.

The NAHRO Awards of Merit Program was created to give national recognition to NAHRO housing and community development member organizations that have found innovative ways of making a difference in the communities and the lives of the people they serve.

In acknowledging the award, Karen Wilds, Executive Director of the NNRHA, said “We are very pleased to have the Authority recognized by this important national organization. It is quite an honor and acknowledges our commitment to providing innovative services and housing to our residents.”

*NAHRO, established in 1933, is a membership organization of 20,000 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.*