



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tampa Housing Authority Receives Awards of Merit from the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO)

(*Tampa, FL - August 2018*) At its Annual summer conference held in San Francisco, CA, the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) honored the Tampa Housing Authority with four Awards of Merit, one of which was nominated for an Award of Excellence, *the highest recognition*. The award-winning projects were:

The Assisted Housing Landlord Guidebook created as a tool to supplement orientations for landlords to become familiar with programs, requirements, regulations, processes and procedures. This Guidebook is printed and left in the agency lobby for viewing while Landlords wait for appointments. It is also available for downloading from the agency's website at www.thafl.com.

The Mass Housing Choice Briefing/Issuance was developed to streamline processes. The agency opted to institute a mass issuance of housing choice vouchers/ briefings on a larger scale thereby reducing time spent briefing each client separately.

The Calls for Service Safety Program identifies safety issues affecting families prior to their escalation to criminal situations. Institution of this program has reduced criminal activity by 32% at the properties, thereby creating safer communities for our families.

The *Jobs Plus Initiative* (JPI) expands locally to families residing in the Robles Park community. JPI provides services that are employment driven and tailored to address work readiness training, employer linkages, job placement, educational advancement, technology skills, computer literacy, community leadership and financial literacy.

NAHRO President Carl S. Richie, Jr. said, "I am proud to celebrate the Tampa Housing Authority's achievements, they have put a lot of thought, creativity and hard work into helping residents improve their lives, communities and agency processes.

President/CEO Jerome Ryans said, "We are constantly developing new initiatives that enrich the lives of our resident population. I am so proud of the remarkable leadership that staff portrays across this country."

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The Housing Authority of the City of Tampa promotes the development and professional management of a variety of affordable housing opportunities, facilities and supportive services that nurture neighborhoods, provide economic development and self-sufficiency activities for residents while assuring equal access to safe, quality housing for low and moderate income families throughout the community.

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