

San Antonio Housing Authority
818 S. Flores St.
San Antonio, TX 78204

Date: Nov. 16, 2009
Contact: Jamie Kaun, (210) 477-6792
jamie_kaun@saha.org

SAHA RECEIVES MULTIPLE NATIONAL HONORS

SAN ANTONIO – The San Antonio Housing Authority (SAHA) has been recognized by several national organizations over the last few months for various properties, internal development programs and resident services.

SAHA's mixed-income family community Victoria Commons won a national innovation award from the National Development Council (NDC), the oldest national non-profit community development organization in the U.S.

Several SAHA communities and programs were honored by the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO), an organization focused on creating affordable housing and safe, viable communities for low- and moderate-income families, for outstanding achievement for program or design innovation.

The NAHRO awards for innovation include:

- Design – Artisan at Salado Apartments and Costa Almadena Apartments
- SAHA Resident Handbook, an informational handbook for public housing residents
- Woodhill Cares, an initiative aimed at improving customer service and maintenance programs at Woodhill Apartments

In addition, NAHRO honored the SAHA Leadership Program, an internal development program that encourages employees to develop and become successful leaders, with an Award of Excellence in the Administrative Innovation category.

The SAHA Leadership Program was also awarded a Silver Spur, the Texas Public Relations Society's highest honor. The program has also been recognized by the Association for Women in Communications (AWIC) and the International Association of Business Communicators. SAHA's newsletter for residents, *Neighbors*, was also honored by the AWIC for excellence.



From left to right: Renee Rooker, NAHRO president; Maria Torres, financial analyst, SAHA; Brad McMurray, director of real estate and development services, SAHA; Monica Quiroga, intergovernmental affairs liaison, SAHA; Melanie Villalobos, public affairs and personnel officer, SAHA; Yolanda Hotman, commissioner, SAHA; Michael Bond, director of public housing - families, SAHA; Lourdes Castro Ramirez, president and CEO, SAHA; Deborah Aleman, director of non-profit housing, SAHA; Stella Burciaga Molina, commissioner, SAHA; Ed Hinojosa, chief financial officer, SAHA; Lori Mendez, director of public housing - elderly/disabled, SAHA; and Saul Ramirez, CEO of NAHRO.