

## 2007 NAHRO AWARDS

### AGENCY AWARDS OF MERIT IN HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

#### PROGRAM INNOVATION: RESIDENT AND CLIENT SERVICES

##### SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAMS

###### Certified Nurses Aide Training

**1. SUMMARY OF PROGRAM:**

The Fort Worth Housing Authority and the Fort Worth Independent School District have partnered to implement a fast track Certified Nurses Aide Training program. This six-week intensive medical training program provides residents of public housing the opportunity to obtain medical skills that lead to entry-level positions in the medical field. Students participate in a series of classroom instruction, on-site clinical and first aid training. Additionally, the Fort Worth Housing Authority has partnered with a local Health Care agency to hire all students that complete the program.

**2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM:**

The Certified Nurses Aide Training program began in June of 2004. It is a six-week, fast track training program that is offered annually in the summer time. This program provides public housing residents with instruction in medical terminology, anatomy, first aid, and basic patient care. The course includes classroom instruction and a clinical that involves hands on training in a health care environment. After students complete the required instructional and clinical hours, they then take the Texas State exam and become a Certified Nurses Aide. This certification provides students access to entry-level positions in the health care industry.

**3. THE RESULTS/SUCCESS OF THE PROGRAM:**

The Fort Worth Housing Authority has offered this program to the residents of public housing for the past two years. Fifty-four (54) residents have completed the program and thirty-eight (38) have secured employment as a result of their training.

**4. THE COST/FINANCING OF THE PROGRAM:**

Fort Worth Housing Authority's cost to administer this program is approximately \$202.00 per student. This cost includes the books, scrubs, stethoscope and the registration fee for the state exam. The cost of the two instructors is not included in the cost per student. The instructional fees for the six-week program are \$3,400.00.

**5. INNOVATION:**

The Certified Nurses Aide Training program is unique in that it allows residents to participate in a short-term training program that will result in immediate employment because of the partnership that FWHA has developed with a Health Care Agency. Additionally, the program demonstrates Fort Worth Housing Authority's commitment to providing residents with opportunities to become independent from government assistance through partnerships with service providers.