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**National Affordable Housing Accreditation Awarded to  
Cambridge Housing Authority, Cambridge, Massachusetts**

Philadelphia, PA, November 24, 2020 – The Affordable Housing Accreditation Board (AHAB) has awarded national affordable housing accreditation to Cambridge Housing Authority in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Cambridge Housing is the seventh affordable housing provider to receive AHAB accreditation. The designation of “Accredited Affordable Housing Organization” reflects an organization’s commitment to meeting high performance standards established by the affordable housing industry and to providing quality, well-managed housing.

Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA) underwent a rigorous review of documentation that culminated in a virtual site visit conducted during the COVID-19 social distancing guidelines in place across the world. During the review and site visit, AHAB reviewers evaluated the organization on its conformance with 8 standards and 47 guidelines; each one measuring how effectively the organization’s board, leadership and staff are meeting their mission of providing high quality affordable housing and related services.

Edwin Lowndes, Chair of AHAB and Executive Director of the Housing Authority of Kansas City in Missouri, was on the review team, “We were impressed with the commitment to resident quality of life, and collaboration with partners that is ingrained in the staff and leadership of CHA. The whole team wants to genuinely listen to what is needed in their community and then innovate to keep people housed.”

Mike Johnston, Executive Director for Cambridge Housing Authority states, “Make no mistake, the accreditation process is not a walk in the park; it requires staff time, but more importantly, it requires an agency to reflect on what they do and how they do it, and it may result in a critique or two. The process is

about more than just gaining national accreditation; it is about becoming much more self-aware, and as a result, becoming a much stronger agency that is better able to serve the community.”

“CHA demonstrated its collaborative leadership in the community and commitment to affordable housing throughout the interviews with residents, staff and community stakeholders. From sponsor-based housing vouchers for organizations who assist survivors of domestic violence, to creating and fundraising for a workforce development program for teens, CHA is an innovative partner, reflecting the community it serves,” said Diana McWilliams, President and CEO of the Affordable Housing Accreditation Board.

Established in 2013, the Affordable Housing Accreditation Board began rolling out the formal accreditation system in early 2018. Accreditation is awarded for a five-year period, encouraging accredited organizations to continuously improve and excel in providing safe, well managed, high quality affordable housing in their communities. Accreditation can result in improved management of housing, shared best practices around the country, and higher quality of life for residents.

The Affordable Housing Accreditation Board accepts accreditation registrations online at [www.housingaccreditation.org](http://www.housingaccreditation.org).

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**About the Affordable Housing Accreditation Board©**

Founded in 2013, the Affordable Housing Accreditation Board© seeks to continuously improve affordable housing for the public, by evaluating affordable housing organizations and inspiring them to excel in providing safe, well-managed, high quality affordable housing in their communities. The Affordable Housing Accreditation Board© accredits affordable housing organizations across the country. An independent, nonprofit organization, The Affordable Housing Accreditation Board© is the affordable housing industry standards-setting and accrediting body. Learn more about affordable housing accreditation at [www.housingaccreditation.org](http://www.housingaccreditation.org).

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