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National Affordable Housing Accreditation Awarded to Housing Authority of Columbus Georgia

Philadelphia, PA, December 17, 2020 – The Affordable Housing Accreditation Board (AHAB) has awarded national affordable housing accreditation to the Housing Authority of Columbus Georgia (HACG). HACG is the eighth affordable housing provider in the nation to receive AHAB accreditation, and the fourth Moving to Work (MTW) agency to receive accreditation.

HACG underwent a rigorous review of documentation by peer reviewers that culminated in a virtual site visit in early November 2020, where the organization was evaluated 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.

Lisa Walters, CEO of HACG said, “Going through the accreditation process was a very valuable experience. It required us to examine our organization in extreme detail. The comprehensive examination of operations, policies, procedures, practices, communications, relationships and by-laws uncovered exemplary practices, areas of strength and areas where improvements can be made.”

“HACG demonstrated it has a tremendously committed and well-informed board. Their practice of annual board retreats and detailed financial reporting allows for sage decision making and cements their reputation as a valued community partner in developing and planning for additional affordable housing and quality amenities.” said Josh Meehan, a peer reviewer, Executive Director of accredited Keene Housing, and Vice Chair of the Affordable Housing Accreditation Board.

Ms. Walters previously held the CFO position at HACG and led the organization to become the 8th housing authority in the nation and the first housing authority in the southeast to receive AHAB accreditation. “I encourage and challenge other housing authorities to pursue accreditation with AHAB. Affordable housing accreditation will lead to greater public trust and increased credibility for the affordable housing industry.”

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. HACG’s accreditation status marks 10% of the current MTW agencies nationally have the designation of being AHAB accredited.

The Affordable Housing Accreditation Board accepts accreditation registrations online at 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.