



Southwest NAHRO

AWARD CATEGORIES AND DESCRIPTIONS

CATEGORIES I - BEST ANNUAL REPORT

Directed to Commissioners, local government, interested entities and local government, and annual publication reporting current financial condition, the results of operations and information on agency programs and services.

CATEGORIES II – BEST NEWSLETTER

Directed to Residents, Participants or to the Community Newsletter entries should include current and previous issues. **(Staff and special purpose newsletters should be entered in Category III)**

CATEGORIES III - OTHER AGENCY PUBLICATIONS

Educational or public relations publications directed to tenants, the general public or target groups, such as tenant handbooks, brochures, supplements, special newspaper sections, video and audio tapes produced and used for clients of community, staff of special purpose newsletter used within an agency, as well as Internet based communications efforts, including websites/pages and e-mail campaigns. Multiple awards are allowed and are likely.

SUB-CATEGORIES FOR I-III

- A. Very Small Housing Agency (less than 149 units under management)
- B. Small Housing Agency (150-499 units under management and/or lease)
- C. Medium Housing Agency (500-1999 units under management or lease)
- D. Large Housing Agency (2000 plus units under management or lease)
- E. Small Community Development Agency (under 100,000 population served)
- F. Large Community Development Agency (over 100,000 served)

Required for Categories I, II & III: Please attach the materials submitted and include information concerning cost and distribution. (Annual Reports, Other Publications, frequency of newsletters, etc.)

CATEGORY IV – SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT

SUBCATERORIES

- A. Meritorious **single accomplishment** by an Employee of a Housing/CD Agency (intended primarily for an employee below the management level. This category seeks to recognize out-of-the-ordinary individual “one time” accomplishments in maintenance, operations, the provision of special services, or heroism. Please provide details.)
- B. Meritorious **cumulative and/or continuing accomplishment** by an employee of a Housing/CD Agency. (Intended primarily as in A, above, for employees below the management level).
- C. Meritorious accomplishment by a Public Housing or Rental Assistance Tenant or CD Program Participant. (Individual effort which improved or preserved the living conditions or lives of others. Please provide details.)

- D. Meritorious accomplishment by a participant or individual who has **successfully completed a Family Self Sufficiency Program**. Please provide details of individual's situation when entering the program and accomplishments during participation and/or after completion.
- E. Meritorious accomplishment by a housing agency, community development department/agency, or other public agency. This award seeks to honor agencies or departments for specific accomplishments or contributions to housing and community development.
- F. Meritorious accomplishment by a Public Official (elected or appointed, local, area, state or federal) not directly involved in the administration of housing and community development programs whose individual efforts have benefited our programs and the citizens which they serve.
- G. Meritorious accomplishments and contributions by a local law enforcement officer (**individual**), employed or elected, by **group** or **team** of officers, or by an entire **department** to the security and improvement of conditions for public housing, rental assistance or community development program clients. Please include specific information describing accomplishments and contributions. Multiple awards may be given.
- H. Meritorious accomplishment in support of programs and/or participants by an individual, entity or association who or which is not employed in nor administers housing community development programs. Please include information describing specific accomplishment or continuing contributions.

CATEGORY V – MEDIA RECOGNITION

This category recognizes local media such as newspapers, television or radio stations, etc. which publish or broadcast features or series covering of housing or community development issues or activities, local or regional. Entries may include copies, clippings, audio cassettes, VHS, tapes, or CD's. (Multiple awards may be made in each category, and judges will make comparisons based on community and market size.)

SUBCATEGORIES

- A. Feature series or continuing coverage produced and aired by a broadcast medium.
- B. Feature series or continuing coverage produced and published by a print medium.

Required for Categories IV & V: Name of Employee, Tenant, Participant, Agency, Organization, Public Official, Law Enforcement Official, Individual, Broadcast Station or Newspaper, or magazine. Media nominated should be identified by name, the city in which it is published or from which it broadcasts, and with the name of the individual responsible for the coverage where possible. Please attach or enclose descriptive information. Entries may be digital or hard copies which support the nomination.

CATEGORY VI – STATE CHAPTER AWARDS – *Submitted by State Chapters*

SUBCATEGORIES

- A. Promotional, informational, or educational material by a state chapter (includes newsletters)
- B. Individual accomplishment by a member on behalf of his or her state chapter (no more than one nominee from a state chapter).

Required: Please attach the material submitted accompanied by information as to frequency, distribution, use or other details

CATEGORY VII – STATE CHAPTERS' "MEMBER OF THE YEAR" AND "COMMISSIONER OF THE YEAR" – *Submitted by State Chapters*

Southwest NAHRO will jointly honor Members of the Year and Commissioners of the Year selected by the State Chapters. Each Chapter should submit the name of its Member of the Year and Commissioner of the Year to the Regional Service office before **January 12, 2024** to ensure adequate time to prepare plaques. The honorees will be presented their plaques at the Annual Conference. The manner of and requirement for selection are the responsibilities of the individual State Chapters. Joint recognition and awards by SWRC for those deserving individuals presents an ideal opportunity for state chapters to highlight the

accomplishments of an outstanding member and commissioner. Some State chapters pay the annual conference registration fee or provide other financial incentives to their Members of the Year and may choose to do so in the case of Commissioners of Year.

CATEGORY VIII – The “HORSE’S AFT” TRAVELING TROPHY

The “Horse’s Aft Traveling Trophy” is presented annually to an individual or group who during the past year (or recent years) has committed (or been the victim of) a blunder, miscue, or series of blunders or miscues related to our professions and programs. Nominations (brief, informal and SECRET) recounting the incident(s) must be sent to the Service Office or the Chair of the Award Committee by **January 12, 2024**. The traveling trophy, the South end of North Bound horse, will be presented at the Annual Conference and is held by the winner for one year, in public view on his/her office wall. The names of previous winners, many well-known and still active, are engraved on the trophy, along with the name of the “new” winner.

CATEGORY IX – SWRC COMMISSIONER OF THE YEAR

(SWRC recommends that each State adopt similar criteria for their “State Commissioner of the Year”.)

Entries should follow the format for NAHRO’s Elizabeth B. Wells Award. Please note that the person making the entry will be responsible to enter their Commissioners information online for the National NAHRO award.

Submissions must be made by a current member agency or individual associated with a member agency (housing or CD). Recipients will be selected on the basis of their contributions in areas 1 through 4.

1. Community Leader: the candidate's ability to persuade the community at-large that it must provide the support and assistance necessary for housing and community development programs to continue.
2. Advocate: the candidate's ability to articulate the importance and purpose of the authority's efforts.
3. Public Relations Officer: the candidate's ability to communicate effectively to the press about the authority's accomplishments, programs, policies, and future plans.
4. NAHRO Service: the candidate's service to NAHRO through participation at the Chapter, Regional, or National level.

CATEGORY X – “EXTRA MILE” AWARD

The “Extra Mile” Award honors the late Mike Hanratty, Executive Director of the Fort Worth Housing Authority, whose commitment and contributions to his community, his profession and to NAHRO at the state chapter, regional and national level set the highest standards of excellence. In the all too brief a decade in Southwest during which Mike led by example and by stimulating those around him to higher levels of performance, he tirelessly worked to make NAHRO more effective and more welcoming to new participants. President of Texas Chapter, Vice President at both regional and national levels, his career would have certainly included both the regional and national presidencies had his life not been so tragically cut short. His accomplishments set the benchmark to which nominees for this award are compared.

The award is presented to nominated individuals who step beyond the rest and whose efforts and contribution (ongoing and cumulative) to their State chapter, the Regional Council, NAHRO, or community have improved or benefited fellow members and/or the public. This award represents an ideal opportunity to recognize an individual whose active contributions deserve to be honored, someone who in the tradition of Mike Hanratty has been willing to go the “Extra Mile” to assist others, professionally and personally. Nominations in the form

Required for Categories VIII, IX & X: Submissions must be made by current member agency or individual associated with a member agency. Please attach information describing the event(s) or actions which led to this nomination