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Sherry Scudder Receives Mary K. Nenno Award at Annual Legislative Conference

Washington, D.C. (March 11, 2014) – The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) named Sharon “Sherry” Scudder as the recipient of the 2013 Mary K. Nenno Award during the annual Legislative conference. The award recognizes outstanding and innovative achievement in the area of legislative advocacy.

Scudder, who served as the executive for the housing authorities of Meade, Butte and Lawrence counties, S.D., has dedicated forty-five years to working as a professional in public housing. She aimed to help Congress recognize the value in small public housing authorities (PHAs) by advocating for the deregulation of small PHAs. She has also advocated for legislation on behalf of the Department of Housing and Urban Development’s Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program (VASH).

In addition to advocating for legislation on Capitol Hill, Scudder has demonstrated a commitment to helping those who are most vulnerable in her community. After becoming the executive director of Meade County Housing Authority, Scudder saw an unmet need in neighboring Butte County, and established a housing authority there. Then, when Lawrence County’s struggling housing authority was in need of an executive director, Scudder stepped in.

At the three housing authorities she has been a part of, Scudder worked on a variety of housing assistance programs, including Section 8 Project-Based Assistance and Housing Choice Vouchers, public housing, and HUD’s VASH program. She plans to retire in June 2014. Upon retirement, she will serve as the Governor of Kiwanis for the Minnesota, North and South Dakota district.

NAHRO, established in 1933, is a membership organization of 23,000 housing and community development agencies and professionals throughout the United States whose mission is to create affordable housing and safe, viable communities that enhance the quality of life for all Americans, especially those of low- and moderate-income. NAHRO’s membership administers more than 3 million housing units for 7.6 million people.

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