

Press Release

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**Housing Authority Announces National Award Winner**

Anywhere, WA – The Anywhere Housing Authority is proud to announce that Sue Johnson has been registered with the NAHRO National Roll of Achievers. The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) represents housing authorities and community development agencies and helps direct public policy on housing and community development issues. The Roll of Achievers recognizes outstanding accomplishments by the clients of member agencies.

Johnson was presented with the award for her work in the welding trade. She has been recognized by both her employers and the program at Anywhere Community College for the skill she has developed since she first decided to pursue welding as part of her goal to earn a living wage for her family. Recently she started teaching welding part time at Anywhere College, in addition to her job at the local shipyard. “Welding is something I never would have found without some encouragement to try things that offered good career opportunities. It was something I could learn quickly and start doing. I was surprised that I enjoyed it so much! The feeling of completion is really satisfying,” said Johnson.

Housing assistance through the Anywhere County Housing Authority gave Johnson the opportunity to attend school and still support her family. Johnson comments about the program. “Having a decent place to live was critical. I would have faced eviction if I tried to go to school without some help, and I could hardly afford rent as it was, because I had no real skills. You can’t live on minimum wage. It’s just not possible.”

Johnson also was a participant in the Anywhere Housing Authority’s Moving to Work Program. The program offers case management and goal setting assistance for non-elderly and non-disabled residents of assisted housing, and offers incentives to increase earned income and move off assisted housing.

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