Patricia Wells' Response

NAHRO Professional Development (PD) is instrumental to the career development of members of the Housing Authority community and the long-term strength of our industry. The diverse program offerings are notable for the high level of professionalism of the instructors who deliver technical expertise using real-world application. NAHRO PD instructors typically bring over five years' experience in a leadership role within the field of their coursework, enabling them to provide practical guidance, empathy and hard-learned lessons.

The NAHRO PD course curriculum is vetted by the National Professional Development Committee, a cohort of seasoned Housers, who dedicate their expertise to interviewing instructors, reviewing study guides and course evaluations, and helping to establish knowledge standards. NAHRO PD, therefore, is unique as it contains curriculum created by practitioners, taught by practitioners, for practitioners.

The coursework taken on my personal NAHRO CME Certification journey, provided comprehensive foundational knowledge that helped prepare me for PHA and NAHRO leadership. When asked about my "CME," I describe the technical coursework spanning the housing spectrum—real estate development, resident services, property management, HCV finance, HUD regulations, leadership, ethics, Commissioner support and organizational planning. Each NAHRO Professional Certification reflects the bearer's earned knowledge, experience and skills to perform the work for which they are certified.

As president, I'll promote the NAHRO PD and advocate for expanded access. Offering online courses using delivery systems that expand the knowledge base for staff at all levels will be a priority.

Finally, taking classes together produces camaraderie and promotes lasting personal and professional relationships.