



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**2010 AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING PROGRAM INNOVATION**

DENVER, CO – The Denver Housing Authority (DHA) was recently presented with a national Award of Excellence by the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) honoring superior assisted housing and community development programs. DHA was cited by NAHRO for “Program Innovation: Resident and Client Services—Home Worker Painter Training Program”.

Out of 263 applicants, the 2010 Award of Excellence is **one of 23 programs** nationwide to receive the award. To date, the DHA Painter Training Program has **served 45 residents**, with **12** residents being fully employed in the painting field.

In partnership with the Sherwin-Williams Company, DHA provides education and training in professional painting skills to housing authority residents to help prepare them for a career. The DHA recruits participants and provides transportation and classroom space. Sherwin-Williams provides staffing and all program materials. At the conclusion of the two-week training, students keep their painting supplies.

The three-day classroom instruction includes six days of hands-on training, concluding with job retention and job search training. During the "hands-on" portion of the program, students work in vacant DHA properties, saving the Authority \$837.55 per unit in painting costs (a total of \$5,862.85 for seven units).

About DHA

DHA was established in 1938 as a quasi-municipal corporation with an annual budget of \$140 million. DHA is one of Denver’s largest subsidized landlords, serving 25,700 very low, low and middle income residents and managing over 10,700 dwelling units located throughout the city. For more information, visit www.denverhousing.org

About Sherwin-Williams Company

Founded in 1866, The Sherwin-Williams Company is a global leader in the manufacture, development, distribution, and sale of coatings and related products to professional, industrial, commercial, and retail customers. For more information, visit www.sherwin.com