



Providence Community Housing Awarded NeighborWorks® Membership *New Orleans Will Receive National Affordable Housing Boost*

NEW ORLEANS - October 11, 2011 – Mayor Mitchell Landrieu, NeighborWorks America officials, city leaders, housing officials, homebuyers, and other community members were on hand today as Providence Community Housing celebrated its entry into the national NeighborWorks network during a chartering ceremony in Bienville Square. This significant achievement, which involved Providence meeting high organizational health and performance standards, enables the organization to gain access to a powerful battery of training, research, technical assistance and funding opportunities. Robert Burns, Director of Field Operations for NeighborWorks America presented Providence’s CEO Terri B. North with a \$250,000 check to support the non-profit’s operations. “NeighborWorks network membership will provide Providence access to resources that strengthen its ability to serve New Orleans, create jobs, and contribute to local economic growth. We are proud to have such a productive and effective organization join our network of excellence,” said Burns.

"I would like to congratulate Providence Community Housing on its induction into the national NeighborWorks network," said Mayor Landrieu. "The homes built here at Bienville Square— some of which were built with the City's HOME funds-- are part of our larger efforts to increase the availability of affordable housing for our residents. The NeighborWorks investments and our broader efforts in Faubourg Lafitte fall in line with the City’s place-based development strategy where we wrap supportive services around housing, schools, transportation and jobs." Bienville Square is a community of for-sale homes in Mid-City that represent a portion of the Faubourg Lafitte redevelopment project. The 31 houses at the site are funded through the City of New Orleans, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), State of Louisiana’s Office of Community Development and a bridge loan provided to Providence by CD Capital. The homes start at \$90,000 and are available only to citizens displaced by Hurricane Katrina and/or Rita.

“We’re proud to be joining the NeighborWorks Network and even more gratified to stand here today with families who came home after Katrina and were able to purchase through the programs Providence developed,” said Terri B. North. Several of the families who have purchased the homes and are planning to purchase were on hand to celebrate Providence’s work in the community. Since being incorporated in 2006, Providence has:

- Cleaned & gutted: 1,983 homes & apartments. (1,173 homes & 810 apartments)
- Completed construction: 1,503 homes & apts. (1,240 for seniors, 322 for working families)
- Under construction: 249 homes & apts. (13 for seniors, 177 for working families)
- In development: 593 homes & apts. (160 for seniors, 433 for working families)
- In pre-development: 941 homes & apts. (257 for seniors, 684 for working families)

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About Providence Community Housing

Providence Community Housing’s mission is to foster healthy, diverse and vibrant communities by developing, operating and advocating for affordable, mixed-income housing, supportive services and employment opportunities for individuals, families, seniors and people with special needs. Over the next five years, Providence’s goal is to bring home 20,000 victims of Katrina by rebuilding and/or developing 7,000 units of housing - both single-family homes and apartments – including 1,500 affordable homes from seniors. Visit www.providencech.org to learn more about Providence’s work in the City of New Orleans. Providence Community Housing is now a chartered member of the NeighborWorks network.

About NeighborWorks America

NeighborWorks America creates opportunities for people to improve their lives and strengthen their communities by providing access to homeownership and to safe and affordable rental housing. Since 1991, we have assisted nearly 1.2 million low- to moderate-income families with their housing needs. Much of our success is achieved through our support of the NeighborWorks network — more than 230 community development organizations working in more than 4,400 urban, suburban and rural communities in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In the last five years, NeighborWorks organizations have generated more than \$19.5 billion in reinvestment in these communities. NeighborWorks America is the nation’s leading trainer of community development and affordable housing professionals. www.nw.org.