



# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT OFFICIALS 2023 AGENCY AWARDS OF MERIT



## **LHA Receives Four (4) National Awards from NAHRO!!**

The Lakeland Housing Authority is pleased to announce the receipt of four (4) National Awards of Merit from the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO). The awards will be presented on October 5, 2023 at the NAHRO National Conference and Exhibition in New Orleans, Louisiana. We would like to thank our community partners for helping LHA provide quality award winning services for our clientele.

## **RESIDENT AND CLIENT SERVICES**



**Family Self Sufficiency and Housing Choice Voucher Homeownership Program** - The Housing Authority of the City of Lakeland's Family Self Sufficiency Program works in concert with the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program as a joint collaborative assisting families with homeownership opportunities. The initiative uses the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) "Your Money, Your Goals – A Financial Empowerment" toolkit model to help families gain the knowledge and skills they need for financial independence.



**HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) Program** – The Housing Authority of the City of Lakeland manages the HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) Program, which pairs Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance with the Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program. This partnership involves case management and supportive services for homeless veterans. These services are designed to help homeless veterans and their families find and sustain permanent housing and access the health care, mental health treatment, substance use counseling, and other support services necessary to help them in their recovery process and with their ability to maintain housing in the community.



**Partnership with U.S. Department of the Treasury - Internal Revenue Service (IRS) – Volunteer Income Tax Assistance** – The Housing Authority of the City of Lakeland was approved as a certified Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program under the auspices of the U.S. Treasury – Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Division. LHA has 14 staff members serving as volunteer tax preparers to provide tax free services to public housing residents, Section 8 HCV tenants and low-to-moderate income families. The LHA VITA site met 100% of the Quality Site Requirements.



**Renaissance Medical Clinic with UniHealth Primary Care** – The Housing Authority of the City of Lakeland in partnership with UniHealth Primary Care developed a medical clinic at the Renaissance at Washington Ridge property located at 150 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Street. This medical facility provides services to 78 residents and is open to all associated seniors. Primary care services provided include management of acute (new) and chronic (old) illnesses, hypertension, diabetes, Alzheimer's disease, hypothyroidism, mammography, menopause and more.

