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IBERVILLE YOUTH GET IN THE ZONE
HANO, Urban Strategies Kick off Afterschool Zone Program
For youth in Iberville neighborhood

New Orleans, LA. (October 3, 2011) – The Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) in partnership with Urban Strategies recently kicked off the Youth Development and Afterschool Zone program in the Iberville community. The Afterschool Zone is a program led by the Partnership for Youth Development (PYD) that provides quality programming and educational activities for youth from low-income households. This program follows the completion of the Boys and Girls Club summer activity coordinated by HANO, and is the next phase in providing services for residents and youth in this community.

Urban Strategies collaborated with HANO in December 2010 as part of the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative to provide community supportive services at Iberville. The Afterschool Zone incorporates quality, enrichment activities for Iberville children and youth and includes instruction in music production, African dance and drumming, graphic design, sports, public speaking and debate. Homework support and tutoring is provided daily at the community center on Monday through Friday from 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. These programs are available to all Iberville children and youth between the ages of 5 and 17.

“HANO is deeply committed to improving conditions for children and youth in our communities,” said Administrative Receiver David Gilmore. “Ensuring that our youth are fully engaged in positive activities outside of school hours is critical to building a strong neighborhood for Iberville.”

Partnership for Youth Development works to expand educational experiences during after school hours. The organization is committed to increasing and maintaining strong connections between community groups, schools, government agencies, and families that support and serve the youth of New Orleans. “At PYD, we seek to improve and expand the network of quality services for New Orleans youth,” said Gina Warner, Executive Director of Partnership for Youth Development.

“We create and nurture strong linkages between this service network and families in need to ensure better outcomes for kids. Our partnership with Urban Strategies and HANO and their efforts in the

Iberville community married up to the unique initiative offered by Afterschool Zone were a natural fit.”

Iberville resident and parent Tamika Lewis enrolled her son in Afterschool Zone activities and is thankful for the program. “I really appreciate the services that are being provided to our kids,” said Ms. Lewis. “While my son is in the program, I am sure that he is safe while I go to work.”

”As a result of Afterschool Zone programming, and with our team of dedicated partners, Urban Strategies intends to influence positive outcomes for the children and youth of Iberville by providing safe, positive and fun opportunities that are free and accessible to all families,” said Esther Shin, Executive Vice President for Urban Strategies. “With additional funding, we plan to further expand programming for children and youth to boost academic achievement and support the pathway to successful futures.”

For more information on HANO’s youth activities contact the main office at 504-670-3300.

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