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HANO Certified as a High Performer Through the HUD Section Eight Management Assessment Program

New Orleans, LA (January 16, 2020) – Today, the Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) announced its certification by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as a Section Eight Management Assessment Program (SEMAP) High Performer for fiscal year ending September 2019.

HANO achieved 130 out of 145 possible points, scoring at 90 percent overall. This is the second consecutive year in which HANO has achieved high-performer status for the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Section 8 Program.

“HANO provides a critical level of support necessary to ensure that affordable and sustainable housing opportunities exist for low income residents in New Orleans,” said HANO Executive Director Evette Hester. “We will continue to prioritize performance metrics set forth by HUD to ensure decent, safe and affordable housing units are available for our HCV Program participants.”

The SEMAP assessment process objectively measures the performance of Public Housing agencies that administer the HCV in 14 key areas that include selection from waiting list, reasonable rent, determination of adjusted income, utility allowance schedule, Housing Quality Standards (HQS) enforcement, HQS quality control, expansion of housing opportunities, payment standards, timely annual reexaminations, correct tenant rent calculations, pre-contract HQS inspections, continuing HQS inspections, lease-up, and family self-sufficiency.

The performance metrics, which are scored on a variable scale ranging from zero to 20 points, assess whether housing agencies are helping eligible families to afford decent rental units at a reasonable subsidy cost as intended by federal housing legislation. SEMAP also enables HUD to identify housing authority capabilities and deficiencies related to HCV Program administration and to provide effective feedback to agency leadership.

HANO completed the required self-certification and obtained approval by its Board of Commissioners to submit to HUD for final scoring in October 2019. For more information on the SEMAP assessment process, visit www.hud.gov.

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