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## **HANO Hosts Homeownership Program Network Reception Connecting Residents with Pathways to Homeownership**

*The event brought together lenders, realtors, nonprofit partners, and Housing Choice Voucher participants to support first-time homebuyers*

**NEW ORLEANS** – The Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) successfully hosted its Homeownership Program Network Reception on Thursday, January 29, 2026, at the NOLA Skyline Event Center. The event convened community partners, housing professionals, and residents to strengthen connections and expand access to homeownership opportunities through HANO’s nationally recognized Homeownership Program.

The reception provided a collaborative space for Housing Choice Voucher participants to engage directly with lenders, realtors, and nonprofit partners while learning about the steps and resources available to support their transition from renting to owning a home.

Established in May 2001, HANO’s Homeownership Program has helped hundreds of families achieve the dream of first-time homeownership. The program allows eligible Housing Choice Voucher participants to apply their voucher subsidy toward a mortgage rather than rental assistance, creating opportunities for long-term housing stability and generational wealth.

“This reception was about access, education, and connection,” said **HANO Executive Director Marjorianna Willman**. “By bringing our partners and residents together, we reinforced HANO’s commitment to empowering families with the tools and resources they need to move confidently toward homeownership.”

During the event, attendees learned more about the comprehensive services offered through HANO's Homeownership Program, which supports first-time buyers at every stage of the homebuying process. Services include homebuyer education, financial literacy training, individualized counseling, credit review, and referrals to certified nonprofit partners, realtors, and lenders. Participants also receive guidance through intake and assessment, required education courses, mortgage application support, and post-purchase services, culminating in the purchase of an eligible home.

HANO also welcomed new lenders, realtors, and brokers interested in participating in the Homeownership Program, while encouraging these housing professionals to share information about the program with their clients to expand awareness and access to homeownership opportunities across the community.

The Homeownership Program is open to qualified Housing Choice Voucher participants in good standing who meet employment and income requirements and have not owned a home within the past three years or hold an ownership interest in other property.

For more information about HANO's Homeownership Program, visit [www.hano.org/residents/homeownership/](http://www.hano.org/residents/homeownership/).

### **About Housing Authority of New Orleans**

The Housing Authority of New Orleans (HANO) is focused on providing affordable housing opportunities for low-income residents of the city of New Orleans while laying the foundation for economic sustainability. HANO serves over 22,000 low-income families through its affordable housing programs. HANO also serves public housing needs for the elderly, disabled, and veterans.