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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NAHRO selects Cleveland for 2013 National Convention

Cleveland civic leaders work together to beat out Chicago and Indianapolis bids

CLEVELAND, OH (July 14, 2011) – Cleveland Medical Mart & Convention Center has been awarded the 2013 National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) National Conference, scheduled for October 27-November 3, 2013. NAHRO is the nation's leading housing and community development advocate for affordable housing.

“The Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority is pleased to serve as the host organization for the 2013 NAHRO National Conference in Cleveland,” said Jeffery K. Patterson, Acting CEO for CMHA. “Our sincere thanks to all of the organizations and individuals who assisted in bringing housing and community development leaders, policy makers, and officials nationwide to Cleveland and Cuyahoga County to discuss and develop strategies and initiatives that will help create more affordable housing opportunities and build stronger more sustainable communities.”

Founded in 1933, the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority is the oldest public housing authority in the country. It serves Cuyahoga County excluding Chagrin Falls Township, through two federally assisted housing programs: Low-Income Public Housing, which serves 16,000 residents, and the Housing Choice Voucher Program, which provides rental assistance to 14,000 households.

The winning bid package was the result of a collaborative effort between Cleveland MMCC, Positively Cleveland, Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the Cleveland Cavaliers, the Ohio Hotel and Lodging Association, and the City of Cleveland.

“The selection of Cleveland to be the host city for the 2013 NAHRO Conference is a testament to what can be accomplished when we work together,” said Cleveland Mayor Frank G. Jackson. “My congratulations to the entire group for not only their outstanding presentation and representation of the City of Cleveland but for leveraging and marketing our assets to this group.”

The 2013 NAHRO National Conference will bring more than 1,500 attendees to downtown Cleveland, utilizing more than 4,300 hotel room nights, occupying more than 50,000 square feet of exhibit space, spending nearly \$500,000 in catering, and delivering approximately \$5.6 million in direct economic impact to the City of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County. Cleveland was selected over competing bids from Chicago and Indianapolis.

“This is a huge win for Cleveland,” said David Gilbert, President and CEO of Positively Cleveland. “Our city and this entire region are experiencing a significant change with new construction, new facilities, and a new attitude about our ability to bring major events to Cleveland.

The bid was submitted on January 19, 2011 and was followed up by a presentation by Cleveland MMCC, Positively Cleveland, and CMHA to the NAHRO board in February. The City of Cleveland and Council President Martin Sweeney produced a proclamation encouraging the NAHRO board to select Cleveland. The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, led by Terry Stewart, President/CEO and Todd Mesek, VP of Marketing and Communications, provided an extensive tour of the facility’s reception and dinner capabilities. Cleveland Cavaliers Head Coach Byron Scott provided an autographed basketball as part of the overall welcoming package.

“Bringing the NAHRO Conference to Cleveland Medical Mart & Convention Center was truly a team effort and we’re delighted to be constructing a facility that allows this region to compete successfully for medical and non-medical conferences, conventions, and trade shows,” said Brian Casey, General Manager of Cleveland MMCC. “Two years

prior to completion, Cleveland MMCC is already paying dividends for this region with a winning facility that can bring these types of events to Northeast Ohio.”

About CMHA

Founded in 1933, the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority is the oldest public housing authority in the country. It is an independent political subdivision of the State of Ohio, created under sections 3735.27 and 3735.50 of the Ohio Revised Code. It serves Cuyahoga County excluding Chagrin Falls Township, through two federally assisted housing programs: Low-Income Public Housing, which serves 16,000 residents, and the Housing Choice Voucher Program, which provides rental assistance to 14,000 households.

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