



# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONTACT**

Melissa Byrd  
Community Housing Partners  
540.382.2002 ext. 305  
[mbyrd@chpc2.org](mailto:mbyrd@chpc2.org)

**EPA AND HUD NAME COMMUNITY HOUSING PARTNERS AS A  
RECIPIENT OF THE 2010 ENERGY STAR® AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE  
IN ENERGY-EFFICIENT AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

**Christiansburg, Va.** – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) have awarded Community Housing Partners (CHP) the 2010 ENERGY STAR Award for Excellence in Energy-Efficient Affordable Housing in recognition of its efforts to provide energy-efficient housing for low-income residents. CHP will be recognized at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. on March 18, 2010.

ENERGY STAR Awards are given to a variety of organizations to recognize their contribution to the construction of energy-efficient homes that benefit the environment, while providing homeowners with significant savings on utility bills and homes that are safer and more comfortable. Award winners are selected from more than 17,000 organizations that participate in the ENERGY STAR program.

As a non-profit community development corporation, CHP designs, builds, and sells affordable, single and multifamily homes that are energy efficient and environmentally sustainable. In 2009 alone, CHP weatherized 833 multifamily housing units, developed an additional 180 units of affordable rental housing that were built to EarthCraft standards; and developed, designed, built, and sold 11 single family homes for EarthCraft or ENERGY STAR qualification. As part of CHP's minimum green design and building standards, all new and refurbished homes have ENERGY STAR appliances, windows, lighting fixtures, and heating systems. The organization also installs insulation that exceeds building code requirements; seals its buildings' envelopes and duct systems; and provides homebuyers and renters with a green operations manual that explains how to take care of the energy efficiency features of their homes, how to save money on energy costs, and provides general education on how to reduce their own carbon footprint by living more efficiently and thoughtfully on the planet.



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“CHP’s commitment to energy efficiency is three-fold: We work to reduce our carbon footprint and improve our environmental stewardship of the earth’s natural resources; improve the financial sustainability of our company’s real estate assets AND to improve the cost-efficiency of the units to improve our residents’ financial fitness and sustainability; and to improve the comfort and safety of all of our homes,” said CHP’s President and CEO Janaka Casper.

“Energy-efficient homes are an important step toward our nation’s energy independence,” said Gina McCarthy, EPA Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation. “Partners like CHP are helping bring the benefits of ENERGY STAR homes to more than one million Americans. Residents of ENERGY STAR qualified homes enjoy increased comfort, lower energy bills and reduced maintenance costs.”

## **About Community Housing Partners:**

Community Housing Partners (CHP) is a 501(c)(3) Community Development Corporation established in 1975 to serve the needs of low-income and low-wealth individuals in the southeast. Our mission is to create affordable, green, sustainable housing opportunities and services for the people and communities we serve.

CHP’s activities include sustainable development, architectural design, construction, energy services, homeownership, housing management, and resident and youth services. These efforts, in concert with public and private partnerships, enable us to create and sustain communities of choice that are environmentally friendly, economical to operate, attractive, well-maintained, and durable for the long term.

Since its inception, CHP has expanded its service area to encompass 4 states; assisted or produced more than 2,000 single-family houses; built a multi-family housing inventory of over 5,000 units; and assisted more than 189,500 individuals with their economic, housing, and social needs. Our clients include elderly people, women and children in transition, formerly-homeless people, single female heads-of-household, the chronically mentally ill, at-risk youth and other families and individuals of low-income and low-wealth.

CHP is a chartered member of NeighborWorks<sup>®</sup> America, and a member of both the Housing Partnership Network and the Federation of Appalachian Housing Enterprises. For more information about CHP, visit [www.communityhousingpartners.org](http://www.communityhousingpartners.org).



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**About ENERGY STAR:**

ENERGY STAR was introduced by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1992 as a voluntary market-based partnership to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through increased energy efficiency. Today, ENERGY STAR offers businesses and consumers energy-efficient solutions to save energy, money and help protect the environment for future generations. More than 17,000 organizations are ENERGY STAR partners committed to improving the energy efficiency of products, homes, buildings and businesses. For more information about ENERGY STAR, visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) or call toll-free 1-888-STAR-YES (1-888-782-7937).



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