



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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3E WINS NATIONAL AWARD

The Peoria Housing Authority's (PHA) 3E program has won the Merit Award for Efforts in Housing and Community Development as presented by the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO). The program has also been nominated by NAHRO for the Award of Excellence.

3E—which stands for *Empower. Educate. Employ.*—was created by Brent Baker, a LISC AmeriCorps service member who is currently in his second term at the PHA. As a college prep course, 3E aims to assist public housing residents acclimate to the challenges of returning to school. Since its first session, 3E has helped 25 women find the skills, determination, and drive within themselves to return to school and attend the Illinois Central College (ICC) Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program. Of those who have finished the program, four have passed their state licensing exams and three have become gainfully employed as CNAs. For more information click [here](#) and [here](#).

The PHA is incredibly honored to have won this national award and are very proud to be able to offer a service like 3E. We would like to thank LISC Greater Peoria for bringing the AmeriCorps program to the area and to Brent Baker for serving our residents for two full terms. Without dedicated community partners and individuals, we would be unable to provide all of the much-needed services our residents utilize in their efforts to gain long-term self-sufficiency and to rise up from poverty.

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