



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PHA SERVICE COORDINATOR TO BE HONORED

The Peoria Housing Authority (PHA) is excited to announce that Supportive Services Manager Danielle Sager has been named Service Coordinator of the Year- 2014 by the American Association of Service Coordinators (AASC). The national award is one of just three awards the AASC hands out at their conference in August. Sager will be in attendance at the conference not just as an award-winner, but also as a class presenter. She has also served on the AASC Committee which plans the event.

Sager began working at the PHA in 2013 under a ROSS Grant. She serves the residents at Sterling Towers, the PHA's elderly and disabled public housing high rise. Sager maintains a caseload of 150 clients on average. In order to best serve her residents, Sager has become certified in filling out disability case paperwork, which allows residents to qualify for her assistance. She regularly volunteers her time for what is in the best interest of the residents, regardless if she can use them towards her grant-required reporting numbers. Her selflessness is certainly a large reason why she has been awarded this honor.

Sager is responsible for creating and maintaining a catalogue of programs for the residents. She has introduced a food pantry at Sterling which serves 60 residents per month. She discovered a computer donation program which provided our residents with access to computers at no cost to the PHA. She has partnered with area service agencies to create an adult literacy program and is currently working on an on-site G.E.D. program in an effort to enhance our resident's lives.

More than just a service provider, Sager is a cost-saver. She estimates that her services—which include a range of services, such as eviction prevention, benefits collection or job placement—have saved the PHA over \$40,000.00 in just two years. More importantly, her efforts have allowed Sterling residents to save over \$275,000.00 in that same time span. Both numbers grow daily.

Of course, none of this would be possible if not for her incredibly positive demeanor. As Elizabeth Lewis—Director of Asset Management and Sager's direct supervisor—puts it: "Danielle is a ray of sunshine."

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