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WISCONSIN HOUSING AND  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

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Contact: Kate Venne, WHEDA, 608-334-4609

### **WHEDA, Community Leaders To Celebrate National NeighborWorks Week in Richland Center**

***Authority has provided over \$2 million in financing for new housing  
construction in Richland County***

Richland Center, Wis. – To help kick-off Neighborhood Housing Services (NHS) of Richland County's annual National NeighborWorks® Week celebration, Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA) Executive Director Antonio Riley will join community leaders including Richland Center Mayor Larry Fowler and County Board Chair Ann Greenheck, on **Saturday, June 5th at 1208 East Haseltine Court, Richland Center**, to take part in NHS of Richland County's Green Community Block Party. Riley will be among those giving remarks **at 10 a.m.** in front of a newly constructed, green-built home, which utilized WHEDA financing.

"WHEDA has enjoyed a great partnership with NHS of Richland County over the years and we're very proud of our efforts to further boost affordable housing and homeownership options throughout southwestern Wisconsin," said Riley. "These upcoming community events will give local residents a chance to see some of the great work in green, energy efficient housing being done in their neighborhoods, along with providing an opportunity for interested home buyers to learn about the best new loan products on the market."

WHEDA has provided over \$2 million in low-interest financing to NHS of Richland County for new housing construction in and around Richland Center since 2002. To date, NHS of Richland County has built a total of 18 homes with WHEDA financing.

WHEDA also has a very successful partnership with NHS of Richland County in offering home buyer education via a live, interactive Distance Learning model. Broadcasting in real time from the NHS offices, NHS staff are able to reach first time home buyers in communities like Platteville, Fennimore and Dodgeville.

"The Distance Learning form of homebuyer education has been successful around the state, but the folks at NHS of Richland Country really have perfected the model. In fact, their partnership with Southwest CAP will become a model for other parts of the state very soon," said Riley. "The use of satellite technology has allowed us to share the knowledge and experience of folks at NHS of Richland County to Wisconsin's rural residents."

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During his trip to Richland Center, Riley will also be stopping in Viola, WI, on Friday to visit the high performance motorcycle engine and parts manufacturer, S&S Cycle, Inc, which received a \$14 million New Markets Tax Credit allocation from WHEDA and the Wisconsin Community Development Legacy Fund (WCDLF) in 2009. S&S Cycle is using the New Markets to retain 180 employees at its facility and to support future business growth.

As a part of Saturday's events, NHS of Richland County will hold three open houses, two of which are newly built green, Energy Star Certified homes located on East Haseltine Court and Center Lane, and the other a recently renovated home on Center Lane. The open houses will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

WHEDA is an independent state authority that works with lenders to provide low-cost financing for housing and small business development in Wisconsin. For more information about WHEDA programs, visit WHEDA's web site [www.wheda.com](http://www.wheda.com) or call 1-800-334-6873.

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