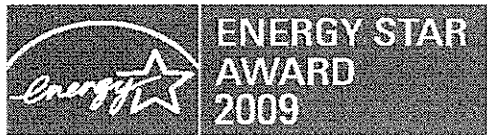
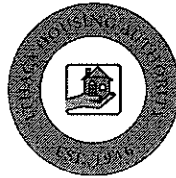


Excellence in Energy-Efficient Affordable Housing



PARTNER OF THE YEAR



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EPA AND HUD NAME THE ITHACA HOUSING AUTHORITY AS A RECIPIENT OF THE 2009 ENERGY STAR® AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ENERGY- EFFICIENT AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Ithaca, New York. March 2, 2009 – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) have awarded the **Ithaca Housing Authority** the 2009 ENERGY STAR Award for Excellence in Energy-Efficient Affordable Housing in recognition of its efforts to provide energy-efficient housing for low-income residents. The Ithaca Housing Authority will be recognized at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. on March 31, 2009.

"Building energy-efficient affordable housing makes great sense in today's economy," said Brenda Westfall, Executive Director, of the Ithaca Housing Authority. "ENERGY STAR qualified homes ensure that residents' energy costs will stay low in the future, while keeping low-income families in comfortable, durable homes."

Construction to implement the energy measures began in late 2007 and were completed by the end of 2008. Significant energy saving measures included: replacing two 30-year old atmospheric boilers with three modulating condensing boilers, replacing 59 75% efficient natural draft furnaces with 95% efficient AFUE condensing furnaces, replacing 22 roof top exhaust fans with an efficient heat recovery ventilation system, and replacing 367 5.8-gallon per flush lavatories with 1.6-gallon per flush lavatories. The IHA contracted with the local Weatherization Assistance Program who contributed considerably to IHA's energy measures by installing Energy Star refrigerators, low flow showerheads and aerators, compact fluorescent lighting and fixtures using occupancy sensors where needed, air sealing and insulation, and weather stripping. In addition, the IHA was accepted into the Multifamily Performance Program of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). NYSERDA funded engineers to benchmark and perform the energy audits that were ultimately implemented

and contributed more than 20 percent of the funding for the renovation project.

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 a quieter, more comfortable home, along with significant savings on utility bills. Award winners are selected from more than 12,000 organizations that participate in the ENERGY STAR program.

Last year alone, Americans with the help of ENERGY STAR saved \$19 billion on their energy bills and reduced greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those of 29 million vehicles.

"Energy-efficient homes are important to our nation's future energy security and independence," said Kathleen Hogan, Director of the Climate Protection Partnerships Division at the U.S. EPA. "Partners like the Ithaca Housing Authority are helping bring the benefits of ENERGY STAR homes to everyone. Owners of ENERGY STAR qualified homes enjoy increased comfort and quality, and can look forward to lower energy bills and reduced maintenance costs."

About the Ithaca Housing Authority

The Ithaca Housing Authority manages and operates 341 multi-family residential public housing units for low-income families in Ithaca, New York. The properties are known as Titus Towers which consists of 235 apartments for elderly and near elderly in two high-rise buildings, while the Family Sites consists of 106 apartments for families on three low-rise sites known as Northside, Southview and Overlook Terrace. The Ithaca Housing Authority also administers a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program and provides rent subsidy to over 800 families in Tompkins County. In an effort to use less energy, reduce water usage, save money, improve comfort level, protect the environment, and strengthen our economy, the Ithaca Housing Authority entered into an Energy Performance contract with the U. S. Department of Housing & Urban Development to make substantial energy efficient improvements.

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 12,000 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 or call toll-free 1-888-STAR-YES (1-888-782-7937).