



GUAM HOUSING AND URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY

For Immediate Release

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GHURA Achieves “High” Performance Rating

Sinajaña, GU (February 11, 2014) – The Section 8 Division of the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority (GHURA) received an overall performance rating of “High” from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Housing Choice Voucher Program, more commonly known as Section 8, completed the Section Eight Management Assessment Program (SEMAP) certification and scored a perfect score of 100, for fiscal year ending September 30, 2013. The SEMAP measures public housing agencies (PHAs) on 15 key indicators on the administration and management of the housing choice voucher program. A PHA’s performance can be rated as troubled, standard, or high.

Several of the SEMAP key indicators of performance measurement include Timely Annual Housing Quality Inspections and Enrollment of Families in the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program. HUD utilizes independent auditors and tenant information to compile the final score. The SEMAP process identifies capabilities and deficiencies of PHAs to effectively administer the Section 8 tenant-based program.

In Fiscal Year 2013, GHURA experienced challenges of funding uncertainties due to the federal sequestration as well as the reduction of housing vouchers and grant funds. Notwithstanding these challenges, GHURA continues to demonstrate effective administration of the Housing Choice Voucher Program and assist approximately 2,500 families annually in the provision of safe, decent, and affordable tenant-based rental housing.

For more information about GHURA, visit www.ghura.org.

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