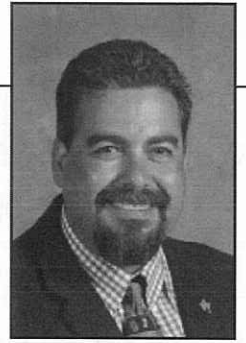


Message from the President...



Andy Rodriguez
President
PNRC-NAHRO

Dear PNRC Members:

I am very pleased to be representing PNRC-NAHRO as your incoming President. First, let me tell you a little about myself. I was born and raised in Rupert, Idaho. The son of Migrant Farm workers who settled out of the Migrant Stream in the early 1960's, I worked in the agricultural fields until my family purchased a dairy in 1978, where I worked and lived until graduation from Minico High School. Feeling the need to serve my country, I joined the United States Marine Corps shortly after graduation, where I served as an infantryman. I attended Boise State University, studying social work, and served as the president of MEChA de BSU for two years. I have been a lifelong advocate, working for the Hispanic community in various capacities including community-based organizations and state and local government. I also have a passion for advocating on behalf of the economically disadvantaged and have worked at all levels to assure their needs are being met.

I am currently the Executive Director of Nampa Housing Authority, where I am responsible for operations and administration of Nampa's Public Housing Agency. In the first 4 years of my employment with NHA I, together with a great team of employees, was able to steer the organization in such a way that it went from being a nearly troubled housing authority to a high performer, where we have remained ever since. I am also very proud to say our housing authority was the first in the state of Idaho to become smoke-free and the first in the Northwest to become 100% smoke-free.

I serve on the Board of Governors (2nd term), Member Services Committee, Emerging Leaders sub-committee and Small Agency Task Force for NAHRO. Needless to say, I find myself very busy when it comes to the national meetings. Speaking of which, our region has done very well in representing the leadership roles of NAHRO. Paul Purcell is the NAHRO Vice-President Chair for CR&D, Chris Pegg is Chair for Legislative Network, and Pam Thompson is the Vice President for Member Services. Jacob Fox, Julie Williams, and I will be serving on the Steering Committee as well.

I have just returned from the National conference in St. Louis and, although the scene nationally is one of doom and gloom, we must rise above the fray. We play an integral role in shaping the lives of the families we serve. I'm sure each of us can think of several families who we have served who, because of our services, find themselves in a better place financially, therefore securing a better future for their children. Times are tough right now financially, with the effects of budget cuts, but we are strong and we will persevere.

I look forward to serving you for the next two years and want to make myself available to you as well. All ideas are welcome, so if you have an idea on how to make our region better, please call me at (208) 466-2601 or e-mail me at andy@nampahousing.com.

Sincerely,

Andy Rodriguez

President

PNRC – NAHRO Executive Board Members Blake Kazama and Maggie LaMont Announce Their Retirements

PNRC-NAHRO member Executive Directors Blake Kazama and Maggie LaMont recently announced their pending retirement from their respective housing authorities. Kazama is Executive Director of the Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority where he has served for 13 years and LaMont is Executive Director for the Northeast Oregon Housing Authority where she has worked for 31 years (24 as Executive Director). LaMont plans to retire on November 30, 2011 and Kazama at the end of 2011.

Both LaMont and Kazama have been long-time PNRC Executive Board members and both have made considerable contributions to NAHRO and to their individual jurisdictions in the form of increased affordable housing and services to clients.

At the recent PNRC-NAHRO Executive Board Meeting in Portland, Oregon on November 7th, President Andy Rodriguez introduced formal resolutions honoring Kazama and LaMont which were unanimously approved and presented in frames. Both honorees will be Lifetime PNRC Members entitling them to complementary participation in future PNRC NAHRO events. □



Top: PNRC President Andy Rodriguez and PNRC Ex. Director Ron Oldham present Maggie LaMont with her Lifetime Membership Resolution. *Bottom:* Carol Gore, CEO/President of Cook Inlet HA, PNRC President Andy Rodriguez, and PNRC Ex. Director Ron Oldham present Dr. Blake Kazama with his Lifetime Membership Resolution.

PNRC-NAHRO Executive Board Implements Changes to Scholarship Program

At its November 7, 2011 Executive Board Meeting in Portland, OR, the PNRC-NAHRO Executive Board discussed the fact that cuts to members' budgets will affect PNRC's budget in 2012. As a result the Executive Board, voted unanimously to reduce the number of scholarships that it offers to residents of members' affordable housing programs beginning in 2012.

In past years, PNRC has offered five scholarships: one Jesse Epstein Scholarship, two Challenge College Scholarships, one Continuing Education Scholarship, and one Community College Scholarship. The Executive Board's action eliminated

one of the two Challenge College Scholarships, leaving four to be offered in 2012.

The Executive Board also acted to revise the scholarship policy so that recipients who do not avail themselves of their payments during the initial two years of their award will lose their scholarship altogether. Deferments of payments for one term or even a year are still possible for good reason.

The 2012 PNRC-NAHRO Scholarship schedule and applications for scholarships are posted on PNRC's website at www.pnrcnahro.org. □