



For Immediate Release

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**NEW HAVEN MAYOR TONI HARP, STATE REPRESENTATIVE PAT DILLON
TO SPEAK AT NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING SERVICES OF
NEW HAVEN'S 37th ANNUAL MEETING**

Doreen Abubakar to receive NHS' inaugural Champion for Change Award

New Haven, CT — Neighborhood Housing Services of New Haven (NHS) is proud to announce its **37th Annual Meeting** that will take place on the NHS Campus (333 Sherman Ave) on Tuesday, October 25, from 6PM – 8PM. The NHS Annual Meeting will bring together staff, community partners, City officials, supporters, and neighborhood residents to celebrate NHS' accomplishments over the past 37 years. The Annual Meeting provides a forum for valuable discussions about the issues at stake in our communities while also allowing New Haven residents, homeowners, community leaders, and business owners to network and connect with each other. The event will draw attention to the services offered by NHS and its HomeOwnership Center while raising the awareness of NHS' impact on the community.

NHS is proud to announce that among this year's lineup of speakers will be New Haven Mayor **TONI HARP** and State Representative **PAT DILLON**. Other speakers include NHS Executive Director, **JIM PALEY**, NHS Board President **VIRGINIA STEVENSON**, as well as a New Haven resident who purchased his home through NHS, **SAFARI CIRHAKARHULA**.

Unique to this year's meeting will be the presentation of NHS' inaugural **CHAMPION FOR CHANGE AWARD**, which will be presented annually in recognition of the recipient's exemplary dedication to the New Haven community. This year's recipient will be **DOREEN ABUBAKAR**, a social entrepreneur, science educator, and the pioneer behind the West River Water Festival.

"The Annual Meeting is one of NHS' most important traditions. Bringing together community residents, business owners, contractors, and our supporters, the meeting is a great way to showcase the work that NHS has been doing and will continue to do as we revitalize New Haven's wonderful residential neighborhoods," said NHS Executive Director, Jim Paley.



NHS' Annual Meeting is open to the public, but pre-registration is preferred. To register, please email Maria Martinez at mmartinez@nhsofnewhaven.org or call 475-227-0530.

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Neighborhood Housing Services of New Haven works to revitalize selected neighborhoods in New Haven by increasing homeownership; making homes beautiful, energy-efficient, and affordable; and helping residents take charge of their neighborhoods. We believe that increased homeownership, educated homebuyers, and rehabilitated houses will produce stable, revitalized neighborhoods that our clients will be proud to call home. www.nhsofnewhaven.org

Neighborhood Housing Services of New Haven is part of the national **NeighborWorks® Network**, an affiliation of more than 240 nonprofit organizations located in every state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In 2015, the Network helped nearly 356,000 individuals and families with affordable housing and counseling. Local programs are supported by NeighborWorks® America, which creates opportunities for people to live in affordable homes, improve their lives and strengthen their communities. www.nw.org