

For immediate release: September 21, 2009



Contact:

Liane Caruso, Communications Officer

Pinellas County Housing Authority

(727) 235-9620

lcaruso@pin-cha.org

PCHA and Progress Energy - Partners in Efficiency Upgrades

PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA – The Pinellas County Housing Authority (PCHA) has partnered with Progress Energy to improve energy efficiency at Rainbow Village and Crystal Lake Manor. Progress Energy has invested over \$43,000 in PCHA properties in an effort to make enhancements that will improve tenant quality of life and prolong the lifespan of heating and air equipment which will, in turn, lower tenant electric bills.

The Crystal Lake Manor property qualified for Progress Energy's duct seal program. Progress Energy invested over \$23,000 to seal the ducts in each unit. This program aims to help reduce a tenant's electricity bills by 35% as well as, reduce repair costs for air conditioning equipment.

Progress Energy also invested \$20,000 in insulation upgrades at Rainbow Village. Increasing the insulation barrier will help to decrease electricity costs to the tenants while reducing repair and replacement costs of air conditioning equipment.

Jeff Stockton of Progress Energy presented two certificates to PCHA Board members last week at their monthly meeting. When speaking to the Board, he stated how impressed he was with the agency's determination to improve the quality of equipment which would ultimately result in a cost savings for the authority's residents. Stockton said he considers the PCHA to be a role model and other housing authority's throughout Florida should follow their lead.

Residents have welcomed the improvements and are looking forward to the reduction in their energy bills. For more information about these Progress Energy efficiency programs, please visit the PCHA Web site at www.pin-cha.org or call 727-443-7684.

****PICTURE ATTACHED****



Pictured from Left to Right: Chairman Thomas Minkoff, Commissioner Cynthia Wilson, Commissioner Angela Rouson, Jeff Stockton of Progress Energy, Commissioner Joseph Triolo, Commissioner Charles Samaha.

About Pinellas County Housing Authority (PCHA):

Formed in 1965 and governed by a five member Board of Commissioners appointed by the Governor of the State of Florida, the Pinellas County Housing Authority (PCHA) provides housing and rental assistance to a total of more than 4,200 families in Pinellas County. The authority is proud to be rated by HUD as a “High Performing” agency. More information about the authority's programs and services can be found at www.pin-cha.org.

###