



NEWS RELEASE

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NeighborWorks® Rochester Awards Realtors for First Time Homebuyer Sales

ROCHESTER, N.Y., November 9, 2009 - NeighborWorks® Rochester, a nonprofit housing organization and member of the national NeighborWorks® Network, awarded three Rochester real estate agents with the 2009 First Time Homebuyers Sales Award on Friday, November 6, at the Greater Rochester Realtors® Association Awards Dinner at the Riverside Convention Center.

This award was given by NeighborWorks® Rochester to the top three Realtors® who submitted sales information from September 2008 to August 2009. Based on those submissions, the top three who sold the most homes in the city of Rochester to first time homebuyers were selected. The winners were: Linda J. Wilson of Nothnagle Realtors (1st Place), Samantha Sharkey also Nothnagle Realtors (2nd Place) and Kelly Chapman with North East Area Development (3rd Place).

Bret Garwood, Director of Housing and Business Development for the City of Rochester co-presented the award with Eric Van Dusen, COO for NeighborWorks® Rochester. The 2009 First-Time Homebuyer Sales Award was presented to acknowledge the important role Realtors® play in promoting city neighborhoods and in helping first-time homebuyers purchase houses.

“Realtors® are often called the gate keepers to our community. NeighborWorks® Rochester’s First-Time Homebuyer Sales Award is being offered in an effort to recognize the contribution that Realtors® make everyday to promote our neighborhoods,” commented NeighborWorks® Rochester COO, Eric Van Dusen. “We also felt it was particularly important to acknowledge those Realtors® who have helped individuals purchase a home for the first time,” said Van Dusen.

NeighborWorks® Rochester is a 30-year old non-profit agency. We are a HUD Approved Housing Counseling Agency and have been a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) working in the city of Rochester since 2002. NeighborWorks® Rochester holds pre-purchase education classes to individuals interested in purchasing a house. We also conduct a Homebuyer Orientation the first Monday of every month starting at 6:30PM. The Orientation is held at NeighborWorks® Rochester’s office located at 570 South Avenue. There is free parking and the building is handicapped accessible. The Orientation provides information on resources that are available to first-time homebuyers. For more information call 325-4170.

NeighborWorks® Rochester’s mission is to collaborate with people and partners to strengthen, sustain and promote city neighborhoods.

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