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Fresno Housing Authority selected to participate in President's ConnectHome initiative

Fresno, CA – The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has selected the Fresno Housing Authority to participate in the President's ConnectHome initiative, the next step in the Administration's effort to bridge the digital divide, for all Americans. HUD received statements of interest from 39 communities and announced today that Fresno was among the 27 communities selected.

The Fresno Housing Authority and the City of Fresno will work collaboratively with government, industry, and nonprofit organizations to accelerate broadband adoption and use for Fresno Housing families. The focus is to give these families opportunities for them to benefit from current and future technology advances, such as bringing them broadband internet connectivity.

Mayor Ashley Swearengin is a strong supporter of the initiative, "As mayor of the 5th largest city in California, I am committed to advancing the economic vibrancy of our community. Digital access and literacy for all of our citizens, particularly our students, is a crucial part of supporting everyone's path toward success. Our close collaboration with the Fresno Housing Authority and our collaboration with HUD on this digital opportunities initiative is a key component of our community's efforts to close the digital divide in Fresno."

Fresno Housing is already working to secure the installation of the infrastructure for the broadband access for residents. In addition to providing the infrastructure and access, Fresno Housing is coordinating with California State University, Fresno's Office of Community and Economic Development to establish digital literacy programs within identified communities. These efforts will support the goal of enhancing resident engagement and broadening their access to services throughout the community.

Fresno Housing Authority is a public agency that helps more than 16,000 low-, very low-, and moderate-income families throughout the city and county of Fresno afford housing and the opportunity to live in diverse, vibrant neighborhoods. Fresno Housing Authority is the 5th largest housing authority in California and one of the 60 largest in the United States. Housing authorities play a crucial role in driving community revitalization by creating and renovating affordable housing, attracting private investment, and developing innovative programs that support self sufficiency. Fresno Housing Authority is led by a Board of Commissioners appointed by the Mayor of Fresno and the Fresno County Board of Supervisors.

“Fresno Housing is honored to have been selected as one of the communities to participate in ConnectHome, as we work collaboratively to bridge the digital divide for residents in Fresno. Access to technology is a key element of success for all our residents and especially their children. Fresno Housing is committed to supporting all of our residents in their journeys to self-sufficiency,” said Preston Prince, Fresno Housing CEO/Executive Director.

The ConnectHome initiative contributes to the mission of the Fresno Housing Authority, to create and sustain vibrant communities throughout Fresno County.