



United Way of Central Ohio Presents the 2006 Champions of Diversity Awards to Homes on the Hill and Communities In Schools

Columbus, Ohio –Communities In Schools and Homes on the Hill Community Development Corporation have received the 2006 Champions of Diversity awards presented by United Way of Central Ohio.

The Champions of Diversity award is a public recognition of individuals and organizations for their excellence and leadership in promoting diversity. Selection criteria for the awards include overall commitment to diversity; integration of diversity into strategic planning efforts, and engagement with the community.

“At United Way we believe that central Ohio is a stronger community when we all embrace and promote diversity,” said Janet E. Jackson, president and CEO of United Way of Central Ohio. “The Champions of Diversity award lets us celebrate those who are leading the way in this important work.”

Communities In Schools is the nation’s leading community-based organization helping kids succeed in school and prepare for life. By connecting existing community resources to schools, Communities In Schools helps students



510 East North Broadway, Columbus, Ohio 43214
phone 614.268.2472 fax 614.268.4260

www.ciskids.org



eliminate the barriers that prevent them from attending school regularly, being motivated to learn, and graduating from high school.

To meet the needs of central Ohio's increasingly diverse school population, Communities In Schools employs resource coordinators who speak Somali and Spanish; provides bilingual resource information; secures funding for Somali afterschool programming, and is dedicated to maintaining a workforce that is representative of the people served.

Homes on the Hill Community Development Corporation provides affordable housing for low and moderate income individuals by building and rehabilitating single family homes in the greater Hilltop area and southwestern Franklin County. In 1998 it became the first housing counseling agency to offer a bilingual first-time homeowner program.

This multiracial, multiethnic organization uses bilingual housing counseling staff to serve the nearly 50% of its clients that are Spanish-speaking. All of its printed materials are bilingual.

Both of these organizations have recognized and responded to the growing needs of the diverse population in central Ohio with the understanding and innovation that marks them as leaders and role models for our community.



510 East North Broadway, Columbus, Ohio 43214
phone 614.268.2472 fax 614.268.4260

www.ciskids.org