



LAS PALMAS FOUNDATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUBJECT: National HUD Conference Award Winner – Vicki Fernandez, National City

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Las Palmas Foundation is pleased to announce the selection of Victoria Fernandez as the recipient of the National HUD Neighborhood Networks Catalyst for Community Change Award. Ms. Fernandez is our extraordinary service coordinator at **Summercrest Apartment Homes** in National City, California (San Diego County).

Ms. Fernandez was awarded the Catalyst for Community Change Award at this year's HUD Neighborhood Networks Conference in Orlando, Florida on June 30, 2005. This award honors Multifamily Neighborhood Networks center staff members whose dedicated commitment and outreach efforts have brought about measurable change in the center and in their community.

As a model for all HUD Neighborhood Network Coordinators and Service Coordinators across the nation, Ms. Fernandez was recognized for her contribution and involvement as an active resource for the Neighborhood Networks Center at **Summercrest Apartments Homes**. She goes above and beyond her job duties to ensure quality service and quality care to all senior residents at Summercrest Apartments.

Ms. Fernandez was hired in May of 2003, coming into a community without any programs or services. She has made outstanding contributions to the residents' lives and environment, promoting incredible positive change. She has developed a number of noteworthy programs, including, but not limited to: computer education classes; daily lunch program; on-site mental health services, including individual and marriage therapy; medical and nutrition program; exercise classes; and senior social hour. These programs empower residents, support self-sufficiency and promote a sense of well being.