OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) named Hugo's Leeoma Caldwell as their 2009 "Friend of Affordable Housing." The agency also honored Little Dixie CAA with its APEX Award for Rural Housing.

Both awards were presented in the state capital on July 15 during OHFA's board meeting and annual awards presentation to statewide winners. Little Dixie Executive Director Brenda Needham and LDCAA Board Member Leeoma Caldwell were present to accept the awards. Mrs. Caldwell has been in the real estate business in Hugo for 30 years, and has been on the board of directors for LDCAA for more than 10 years. On the board, she represents the private sector, representing the Hugo Rotary Club.

With the APEX Award for Rural Housing, OHFA recognized Litle Dixie's accomplishments throughout the region in 2008. These accomplishments included:

- The opening of HUD 202 senior housing in Clayton and construction of a similar senior living complex in Antlers.
- Continued improvements and additions to Terry Hill Apartments in Hugo. Terry Hill has "gone green," with energy efficient light bulbs and appliances added to every fixture in every apartment. The complex transitioned to all-electric power in 2008, eliminating costly natural gas.
- Self-help expansion to Carter, Marshall and Love counties. This program for new and low-income home buyers has been successful in southeast Oklahoma, and state and federal officials have recently asked Little Dixie to manage a Self-help program in these counties. For more information about Little Dixie's housing programs and other services, visit their website at www.littledixie.org.