

2008 EXCELLENCE AWARDS Management Company of the Year

Allison Brown, Princeton Property Management



Allison has served as the portfolio manager for Bienestar, the largest and the state's oldest farmworker housing provider for 21 years. Bienestar currently has a portfolio of 10 properties (458 units).

Until 2007, seven of the properties were farmworker housing with funding from Rural Development (RD), an organization that is recognized for its stringent compliance requirements on its properties. Rural Development has recognized Allison on numerous occasions and regularly conducts tours of the properties for visitors from locations across the United States as prime examples of excellence in farmworker housing.

Demonstrating innovation, Allison recruits, coaches and trains residents from the developments as property managers. This process of recruitment ensures that the project's property managers are bilingual, bicultural staff who work effectively with the resident population without cultural or language barriers

In 2004, Allison was approached by Housing Development Corporation (now Bienestar) to take over the management of Sunset Gardens and Sierra West, two troubled properties in Hillsboro, until negotiations could be finalized for HDC to become a general partner and begin renovating the properties. Both properties had become centers of criminal and gang activity, drug dealers, and prostitution. The negotiations took over three years, but in spite of intimidation, threats and fears of safety, Allison, the property manager and the police department began the slow and arduous process of turning the properties around. Crimes within the developments slowly began to decline.

The projects recently reopened with accolades from the Hillsboro Mayor, police department and state representative Dave Edwards.