

# Art elements enhance housing complex

By **DOUGLAS BRITT**  
SOCIETY WRITER

**N**EW Hope Housing recently celebrated the opening of its Brays Crossing location with a reception that gave guests a look at how the nonprofit has transformed the former Houtex Inn at 6311 Gulf Freeway into an



GARY FOUNTAIN PHOTOS

**A. Mechelle Phillips, left, and Emily Abeln**

**B. Paige McGilloway, from left, state Rep. Carol Alvarado, Michael M. Fowler and Joy Horak-Brown**

**C. Anna Leal, left, and Leslie Wang**

**D. Carmen Lomas Garza, from left, Ernesto Maldonado and Kim Clark Renteria**



affordable housing community with public art components.

The renovated facility features stained-glass windows created by Houston artist **Kim Clark Renteria**

and four steel murals designed by Kingsville-born, San Francisco-based artist **Carmen Lomas Garza**. Renteria's windows reflect off the reception area walls under certain daylight conditions and are visible



from the freeway at night. Garza's murals depict Hispanic themes and add an artistic element to what would have been a blank utilitarian wall.

[douglas.britt@chron.com](mailto:douglas.britt@chron.com)