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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

State HFAs Win National Recognition for Affordable Housing Programs

WASHINGTON, DC – Twenty-three state Housing Finance Agency (HFA) programs were recognized during the National Council of State Housing Agencies' (NCSHA) recent Annual Conference and Tradeshow. The conference was attended by more than 900 affordable housing industry professionals. Now in its 24th year, NCSHA's awards program mission is to share information about the most successful housing programs, identify industry best practices, recognize exemplary HFA efforts, and encourage HFA innovation. The winning programs were judged on originality, innovation, a proven track record in the marketplace, cost/benefit ratio, and measurable benefits provided to targeted customers.

The winning programs were chosen from 147 entries from across the country, and programs will serve as models for other HFAs. As part of its Summit on Green Affordable Housing, a special Going Green award was given out this year in addition to the regular categories. "The Awards Program represents the best work of HFAs from across the country. It's a great way to share information about what works. It is this sharing that, over the years, has made all HFAs more successful in achieving our common mission of providing affordable housing for those who need it," said Barbara Thompson, NCSHA's executive director.

NCSHA's executive committee also bestowed a special Impact Award to Tom Gleason from MassHousing and Terri Parker from the California Housing Finance Agency for inspiring and leading an effort with Fannie Mae that produced a special collaboration with Fannie Mae allowing HFAs to help more people achieve their dream of homeownership.

NCSHA is a national, nonprofit organization created by the nation's state HFAs to assist them in increasing housing opportunities for lower income and underserved people through the financing, development, and preservation of affordable housing.

More information on all the award winners is available at www.ncsha.org.

A list of the 2008 NCSHA Annual Awards for Program Excellence Winners follows:

Category	Winner	Program	Contact
Communications: Annual Report	MaineHousing	<i>Annual Report</i>	<u>Dan Simpson</u> Director of Public Information MaineHousing, 353 Water Street Augusta, ME, 04330- 4633 207-626-4692

Management Innovation: Technology	New Hampshire	<i>Remote Electronic Inspection System</i>	<u>Jane Law</u> Communications & Special Projects Administrator New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, P.O. Box 5087, Manchester, NH 03108-5087 603-310-9255, ext. 9255
Rental Housing: Encouraging New Production	Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority	Co-Developer Mentor-Protégé Program	<u>Kate Venné</u> Director, Communications Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority, P.O. Box 1728 Madison, WI 53701-1728 608-266-7884
Rental Housing: Multifamily Management	Ohio Housing Finance Agency	Ask An Expert online tool	<u>Kelly Taylor</u> Director of Communications & Marketing Ohio Housing Finance Agency 57 East Main Street Columbus, OH 43215-5135 614-728-4270
Rental Housing: Preservation & Rehabilitation	Minnesota Housing	Stabilize more than 1700 Units of Housing	<u>Megan Ryan</u> Communications Director Minnesota Housing 400 Sibley Street, Suite 300 St. Paul, MN 55101-1998 651-297-3566
Rental Housing: Preservation & Rehabilitation	South Carolina State Housing Finance and Development Authority	Preserving Affordable Housing: A National Model	<u>Clayton Ingram</u> Public Information Officer South Carolina State Housing Finance and Development Authority 300-C Outlet Pointe Boulevard Columbia, SC 29210 803-896-9520

