

PRESS RELEASE- EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

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## **A REGIONAL COALITION FOR HOUSING (ARCH) CELEBRATES OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY HOUSING EFFORTS IN EAST KING COUNTY**

The ARCH (A Regional Coalition for Housing) Community Housing Recognition Awards recognize outstanding efforts to meet the housing needs of the East King County community, and particularly households with low and moderate incomes and those with special housing needs. The ARCH 2006 Community Housing Recognition Awards ceremony is scheduled for 5:30-7:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 18, in the Concourse at Bellevue City Hall, 450 110th Ave. NE, in Bellevue.

ARCH was formed 14 years ago by the cities of Bellevue, Kirkland and Redmond, and King County, to address housing needs through a cooperative effort supported by pooled resources. Since then, the twelve other cities located in East King County have joined ARCH, and ARCH has received several national awards for their innovative, cooperative approach to addressing local housing needs .

In the course of ARCH's work, it has become clear that while local governments have a vital role in addressing housing needs, the key to success is the partnership efforts developed within the community. Quanda Evans, Chair of ARCH's Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) states, "Coordination and partnerships among a wide range of private, non-profit and public players is needed to address our housing needs in East King County. The Recognition Awards is a public way to recognize people that make a difference, as well as successful programs and projects that exist in our communities."

The ARCH Citizen Advisory Board was pleased with the diversity of nominations received. Categories for nominations included individuals, programs and projects. Nominations were evaluated against a list of criteria, such as: increases housing choice especially for low and moderate income families, or persons with special housing needs; approaches that fit into the existing community; uniqueness; quality of design; and increased community awareness of local housing needs. Based on these criteria the following persons, programs and projects will be recognized by ARCH and its member cities:

### **People:**

Linda Hall, Former Executive Director of St. Andrew's Housing Group. Linda is recognized for her overall passion in the area of affordable housing which has translated into the growth and strengthening of St Andrew's Housing Group, a leading non-profit housing developers in East King County, and her being proactive to increase the awareness to the broader community of affordable housing needs in East King County.

Eric Campbell, Founder and President of CamWest. Eric Campbell has been a leader in the private development community, especially in the area of innovative, smaller home designs and has also volunteered on several local boards and commissions.

Doreen Marchione, President and CEO of Hopelink. While Ms Marchione has been recognized on many occasions, this award is in acknowledgement to her leadership at Hopelink which has focused on housing households in crisis and in need of emergency services, and that through their efforts, make lasting changes in the lives of people and families.

**Program:**

Kirkland Innovative Housing Demonstration Program. Put in place to allow private builders to build innovative smaller housing developments within single family areas of Kirkland. Kirkland is commended for its willingness to be proactive in achieving the goal of increasing housing choices in its community.

The two projects built under this program were the Kirkland Bungalows project (CamWest) and the Danielson Grove project (the Cottage Company).

Community Homes, Inc. (CHI) Adult Family Home Program. Provides group homes in Bellevue and Redmond for very low income adults with developmental disabilities. Each home is designed for 5 adults and their live-in caregivers. CHI has developed a model approach to effectively serve a growing need in our community and that has been well received by the community.

**Projects:**

Greenbrier Heights, Woodinville. Is an innovative 'neighborhood' in Woodinville that includes a mix of affordable rental housing (including senior housing and family housing), market rate ownership housing and ownership housing affordable to moderate income households. It also includes a community center and park, trails and natural areas. This project was developed by a partnership of Downtown Action to Save Housing (DASH), Shelter Resources Inc., CamWest, King County and the City of Woodinville. Greenbrier also was recently recognized by the Governor as an outstanding example of implementing the goals of the Growth Management Act.

Avondale Park Redevelopment, Redmond. Made up of three separate housing developments and a neighborhood park located on surplus federal land in Redmond. It includes transitional and shelter housing for homeless persons and families, developed by Springboard Alliance (Avondale Park); low income ownership housing, developed by Habitat for Humanity of East King County (Patterson Park) , and market rate ownership housing, developed by Mosaic Homes (Taluswood). This unique development required many years of efforts from a wide range of private, non-profit and public agencies to become a reality.

Evergreen Court, Bellevue. Evergreen Court provides low and moderate income rental senior housing that includes different levels of assisted living, thus allowing residents to age in place. The project was developed by a partnership between DASH and Shelter Resources Inc., and is located in Bellevue. With the growing number of older, frail seniors, this project is recognized as the first affordable 'assisted' living senior housing created in King County.

For more information on ARCH see our website: [www.archhousing.org](http://www.archhousing.org). A display board will also be present at the event, to showcase the awardees listed above.