

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Media Contact:  
Caroline Bombar-Kaplan, 425-260-3302



**State Honors Grant County Housing Authority**

**Tacoma, Wash.—Sept. 16, 2008—** The Grant County Housing Authority was honored last night for years of service to the mission of expanding affordable housing resources for the benefit of Washington’s low-income residents. Before an audience of 500 colleagues, John Poling, executive director, and Jeff Mauceri, operations manager, accepted the *Friend of Housing* award on behalf of their not-for-profit organization. *Friend of Housing* awards are presented annually by the Washington State Housing Finance Commission. The awards ceremony took place on Sept. 16 at the 2008 *Housing Washington* conference at the Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center.

“John and Jeff have created a wide range of functional, well constructed and good looking housing complexes that are meeting the needs of Grant County’s diverse population,” said Perry Rose of the Housing Authority of Kittitas County.

The agency has initiated collaborations with many other nonprofit agencies throughout the region to assist in developing successful strategies to maintain, improve, and further the availability of affordable housing to those in need.

The Commission received more than 20 nominations for the *Friend of Housing* awards from people working in the public, private and independent sectors of the affordable housing industry. Honorees are selected for their leadership and exceptional contribution to creating or supporting affordable housing, implementing housing-related programs, creating innovative financing mechanisms for housing, supporting homebuyer education or technical training efforts within the housing community and helping to solve housing problems.

Washington State Housing Finance Commission is a publicly accountable, self-supporting agency dedicated to increasing housing access and affordability and to expanding the availability of quality community services for Washington state residents.

###