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**State Honors Contractor Mark Lundgren from Deer Park, Wash.**

**Tacoma, Wash.—Sept. 16, 2008**—Mark Lundgren 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, Mr. Lundgren received a *Friend of Housing* award 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.

“We have experienced first hand Mark’s dedication to creating high quality housing for people of limited means,” said Bill Zeck, principal in Zeck Butler Architects of Spokane. Over the last ten years, building housing that is affordable for low-income households has become Mr. Lundgren’s professional specialty and personal passion. He has a reputation for finishing ahead of time and within budget, a rare occurrence in this industry, according to Zeck.

Known for his concern for meeting the state’s affordable housing needs, Mr. Lundgren has been an invaluable proponent and contributor to numerous affordable housing providers throughout the local region and the state.

His participation as a team member numerous projects has made these residential developments economically feasible while still maintaining the very highest standards of livability, design and quality of construction.

“He truly cares,” said Zeck. “I’ve known him for over a decade and find him to be a person of honesty and integrity.”

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The Housing Finance 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.

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