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Promoting Quality Affordable Housing and Community  
Development Throughout San Diego County

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## Affordable Housing Communities Receive Industry Awards Today

San Diego – Five affordable housing communities received awards this evening as the most Outstanding Affordable Housing and Community Development communities in San Diego County. The awards were presented by the San Diego Housing Federation at its annual awards event which recognized new development and rehabbed projects completed in 2006.

Award winners were:

- **Milane Lane**, a community of seven affordable homes for first time homebuyers in Escondido developed by Habitat for Humanity;
- **Lillian Place**, an apartment community for low-income families in downtown San Diego developed by Wakeland Housing and Development and San Diego Interfaith Housing Foundation;
- **Fairbanks Ridge**, a project of Chelsea Investment that houses low income families in the Del Sur master planned community of north San Diego;
- **Veterans Village of San Diego**, transitional housing for veterans developed as the first phase of the redevelopment of Veterans Village in San Diego; and
- **Solara**, a new development by Community HousingWorks for low-income families in Poway that was recognized for its energy and cost saving features for residents.

Awards also were presented to individuals and city governments for their affordable housing efforts. These included:

- **Outstanding Resident Services Provider**  
Alma Hernandez, Las Serenas Apartments, San Diego
- **Outstanding Advocate**  
The City Heights Community Development Corporation, San Diego
- **Outstanding Local Government**  
City of Escondido
- **John Craven Memorial Award to a Government Employee**  
D. Todd Phillips, San Diego Housing Commission
- **Outstanding Development Partner**  
Nina Karavasiles and Jihmye Collins, Artists for Lillian Place

-more-

## Add one/affordable housing awards

Special Recognition awards were presented to the Digital Inclusion Project of the MAAC Project. The award recognized MAAC's efforts to more broadly empower residents to effectively use computers and access the internet. Through its partnership with So Cal Freenet wireless internet service was made available to residents of two affordable housing communities. One of them, the Mercado Apartments, made it possible to create a "hot spot" in Chicano Park for neighbors of the apartment community to use in accessing the internet. The project also obtained 100 free computers for resident computer training and ownership programs.

Another Special Recognition award was presented to three AARP volunteers who set up a voter registration program last summer in support of Proposition 1C, the affordable housing infrastructure initiative that was approved by the state's voters last November. The volunteers were Joy Leibbrandt, Maryann Kiser and Louise Kubanda.

The San Diego Housing Federation annually recognizes people and projects that provide exceptional housing and service to low income residents of San Diego County. The awards were presented at the Handlery Hotel in San Diego. More than 300 people attended the ceremony which was emceed by Marti Emerald, News10 Investigative Reporter.

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