

The 2010 Governor's Conference on

# Affordable Housing

**October 25, 2010**

Navy Pier, Chicago



Pat Quinn, Governor, State of Illinois  
Terry E. Newman, Chairman  
Gloria L. Materre, Executive Director  
Illinois Housing Development Authority

## **2010 Governor's Champions of Affordable Housing Awards**

The Governor's Affordable Housing Task Force recognizes innovation and excellence in affordable housing throughout Illinois. The 2010 *Champions of Affordable Housing* award winners were announced Monday, October 25 at the Governor's Conference on Affordable Housing.

### **THE ARTHUR L. TURNER LEADERSHIP AWARD**

*In recognition of an Illinois legislator who champions Affordable Housing*

Representative Arthur L. Turner is best known for the creation of the Illinois Affordable Housing Trust Act, which provides more than \$20 million each year to help thousands of low-income Illinois families afford to make repairs to their homes, avoid homelessness, purchase their first home or live in safe decent housing. Representative Turner also championed the Illinois Affordable Housing Tax Credit program, which leverages over \$95 million in resources towards workforce and affordable housing.

**Winner: State Representative Arthur L. Turner accepted the inaugural award named on his behalf.**

### **THE JON LINFIELD AWARD**

*In recognition of an Affordable Housing development or initiative in a Rural, Small City, or Non-Metropolitan Area*

Born during the Great Depression in Petersburg, Illinois, Jon Linfield was a veteran of World War II and a long-time champion of worker's rights and affordable housing. Linfield labored in the obscurity of public and private housing development programs for the underprivileged over a career that spanned more than 40 years. An astute critic of national housing policy, Linfield was often called to testify to Congress as an expert on rural development, land use and preservation, rural housing, farm, and migrant farm worker issues. In 1977, he was appointed Director of the Illinois Farmers Home Administration by President Carter and was responsible for a major revamping of resources around the state. Mr. Linfield was an extraordinary partner and motivator to Illinois state development agencies during the then first-time housing and development partnerships with the Illinois Housing Development Authority and the former Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs. In later years he served as the Executive Director of the Washington D.C.-based National Housing Conference and as Technical Assistance Director at the Housing Assistance Council.

**Winner: Downtown Commons in Jacksonville – Developed by Windsor Development and managed by Morgan County Housing Authority, the 22 single-family townhomes of Downtown Commons enable residents to live near work.**

Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) and Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) financing provided more than \$4 million in low-interest loans, grants and tax credit equity to build Downtown Commons.

The development features energy efficient windows, insulation, lighting, and appliances. Downtown Commons also creates a future homeownership opportunity for tenants who want to buy their homes at an affordable price.

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### **THE GALE CINCOTTA AWARD**

*In recognition of an Affordable Housing development or initiative development or initiative in the Metropolitan Chicago Area*

Gale Cincotta (1929 – 2001) was a neighborhood activist who went on to help ignite the national debate over bank lending policies that discriminated against minority home buyers. Ms. Cincotta achieved national fame for her efforts to support the residents of the Austin neighborhood, on Chicago's West Side, where she lived most of her life. As head of National People's Action, she pressed Congress to pass the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act of 1975, and fought for the passage of the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 which required banks to invest in neighborhoods where they did business. She also challenged the banking industry and the federal bureaucracy over redlining.

**Winner: Rosa Parks Apartments in Chicago's Humboldt Park neighborhood – Developed and managed by Bickerdike Redevelopment Corp., the 94 units of new construction affordable housing for families incorporate energy-saving sustainable design.**

**Rosa Parks was funded in part by \$9.8 million in federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and nearly \$2 million in a zero-interest loan and state tax credits from the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA).**

**The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) also provided a \$285,000 energy efficient grant to incorporate green energy technology, including geothermal heating and green roof.**

### **THE WYVETTER H. YOUNGE AWARD**

*In recognition of an excellent and innovative development or initiative in Metropolitan Areas outside of Metropolitan Chicago*

Wyvetter H. Younge (1930 – 2008) was a member of the Illinois House of Representatives, representing the 114th District (East St. Louis / Metro East area) until 2008. After practicing law in a private practice, Younge was first elected to the Illinois House in 1975. She spent her career trying to improve her district, one plagued by poverty and crime. Representative Younge was instrumental in improving the conditions of housing, schools and services in her community - she also advocated for specific funding of projects for veterans and homeless persons with mental illness. Younge's political footprint is broad, and can be seen on everything from the Casino Queen to the Mary Brown and Jackie Joyner-Kersey centers, to the transit-oriented developments along the Metro in East St. Louis.

**Winner: Douglas Park Place in Rock Island – Developed through a partnership between Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation (GROWTH) and Community Housing Services of Rock Island and managed by the Rock Island Housing Authority, the development provides eight safe, decent and affordable transitional homes for mothers recovering from substance abuse issues.**

**The Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) invested nearly \$2 million in a low-interest loan and state tax credits to create Douglas Park Place.**

**Rock Island's Robert Young Center provides supportive services for residents. Douglas Park Place is among four residential centers in Illinois that enables children to live with their parents as they undergo recovery.**

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