

2017 Eagle Award Nominations

Person

Maureen Hewitt, CEO of InnovAge runs her 1,300 + employee business serving middle and low-income seniors. For many seniors this means staying in their homes and not being forced early into institutionalized care. Maureen has also partnered to build 100% affordable 65+ senior housing communities with PACE services, such as Thornton Housing Community's 72 units, and Aurora Pinewood's 130 seniors.

Jody Kole, is the Executive Director at Grand Junction Housing Authority. She has been nationally recognized for creating models of housing and services together to achieve long term stability. Jody also served as board president at CHFA and Housing Colorado, as well as served on countless other boards.

Sandy Maben has worked for Mercy Loan Fund for 18 years and has been on the board of commissioners for Metro West Housing Solutions (MWHS) for that same amount of time. Both of these organizations are geared specifically towards the creation and preservation of affordable housing in Colorado.

Don May has been an active member of Housing Colorado and NAHRO for over 15 years by serving in leadership positions in both organizations. His work helped pass a Bill in Colorado's General Assembly for creation of the Tax Credit in 2013. Since assuming the Executive Director Role in 1992, Adams County Housing Authority's portfolio has expanded from owning 132 housing units to 2,752 units of which over 1,459 are owned and managed by ACHA.

Gete Mekonnen is a community development expert with a 30-year success record. He is originally from Ethiopia, and went on to earn his masters in community development/city planning from Ohio State. He has worked his way up from a grass roots organizer to the executive director of a nationally recognized and respected non-profit community Development Corporation in Denver; Northeast Denver Housing Center.

Joe Rowan serves as Director of Programs and Development for Mile High Community Loan Fund. Joe originally joined Funding Partners (a wholly owned subsidiary of MHCLF since May 2016) as a Senior Loan Officer in 2001 and he was tapped as its Chief Officer in 2004. Under Joe's leadership, Funding Partners grew its geographic reach to include the entire state of Colorado, expanding technical assistance services and specialized financial products to address distinct needs within the market.

Program

Colorado Disaster Recovery Home Access Program is the State's Home Access Program assisting households and communities whose private roads, bridges, and other crossings to homes were damaged or destroyed by the September 2013 floods, or one of several preceding wildfires. Homes located in remote canyon areas are typically accessed via privately owned bridges rather than publicly owned and maintained ones.

Eviction Prevention Program provides up to three months' worth of financial support and intensive case management as needed. Preventing eviction of households impacted by one isolated incident pushing them off the financial cliff and that threatens homelessness. This program is underwritten by Greccio Housing Unlimited, in Colorado Springs.

Bridges to Opportunity program is a collaborative between the Arvada Housing Authority and the Arvada Community Food Bank. The program aims to help the participants move beyond basic survival and strive for self-sufficiency. This is accomplished by providing case management services to the participants in combination with housing. AHA has dedicated twenty-five of their HUD Section 8 vouchers for this program.

Project Renovate was the first RAD conversion of Public Housing in Colorado and allowed Boulder Housing Partners to move 279 units from Public Housing into a tax credit partnership. The project renovated 40 year-old apartments to modern standards while also creating three new community centers and substantially renovating two existing community centers.

Transitional Housing was created by two nonprofit organizations, Housing Solutions of the Southwest and the Durango Adult Education Center, who partnered to pilot a transitional housing program. The 2016 program is designed for individuals who are homeless or housing insecure and are enrolled in the BOOST education program at the DAEC.

Project

The Ashley Union Station provides the only affordable housing development in the Union Station Neighborhood. Its location combines prime living in one of downtown's best neighborhoods with its location in the region's multi-modal transportation hub. For the many people that work in downtown Denver, but otherwise cannot afford to live downtown, the Ashley provides an option to do both.

Copper Point Townhomes is Summit Combined Housing Authority's opportunity for fifteen families of moderate income to live in townhomes in Summit County. 25 individuals, most employed in critical resort or community jobs, have established a housing foothold. 100% of the project is deed restricted with both buyer income-caps as well as a 30 hour/week minimum year-round work requirement.

The Edge Apartment Complex was built to support families in Loveland. The 70 unit complex includes 10 one-bedroom units in an individually designed building serving homeless veterans in transition to permanent housing with HUD. Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) combined with Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) and clinical services are provided by Veterans Affairs (VA).

Garden Court at Yale Station is a 66 unit development located in Metro Denver. Garden Court demonstrates innovation through its efficient use of a site almost immediately adjacent to Yale Station, where work-force residents can access bus and train connectors to the Tech Center to the south and downtown Denver to the north.

Northfield@Stapleton Apartments is an 84-unit sustainable apartment community for families. Nearly eighty percent of the units are two and three bedrooms. It was one of the first projects awarded State Tax Credits in 2015. The complex has forty Project-Based Vouchers (PBV) and eight units for transitional housing.

Renaissance at North Colorado Station in Denver provides 103 apartment homes in a transit-oriented development, close to public transportation. Residents are both families and individuals in need of affordable housing. The site has supportive services to reduce social service and emergency related costs.

Sable Ridge Community is located in the Montbello neighborhood of Denver, one of the hardest hit during the great recession. This site provided a great opportunity to help stabilize the neighborhood and create new affordable homeownership opportunities with its 51 townhomes.

Sanderson Apartments is operated by Mental Health Center of Denver and provides a safe, open and inviting environment that minimizes the effects of trauma, avoids any sense of confinement and ensures residents feel safe. The building is equally split between living space of 60 one-bedroom, furnished apartments and engagement space, including a library, wellness center, gardens and gathering places.

Wonderland Creek Project demonstrates a creative approach to affordable for-sale housing and building community. This unique partnership between Flatirons Habitat for Humanity, the City of Boulder and Fit Properties marks the first time the City is allowing a private developer to partner with Flatirons Habitat and receive “in lieu” credits. This parcel is transitional between rental and homeownership units.