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**MassHousing Receives Three National Awards for Program Excellence**  
*MassHousing Executive Director Thomas R. Gleason also honored  
for his national leadership on behalf of all state housing finance agencies*

BOSTON – November 13, 2008 – The National Council of State Housing Finance Agencies (NCSHA) recently presented MassHousing with three awards for program excellence and recognized MassHousing Executive Director Thomas R. Gleason with an Impact Award “for his extraordinary efforts to advance the mission of all state housing finance agencies.”

The awards were announced at the NCSHA's annual conference in Denver, CO., on Oct. 27.

MassHousing received the NCSHA's award for Financial Management Innovation for MassHousing's Whole Loan Sale Program, which expanded the agency's homeownership lending beyond its yearly revenue bond volume cap with whole loan sales through the Fannie Mae My Community Mortgage Program. Through aggressive business development, MassHousing utilized Fannie Mae financing as an alternative to taxable bond financing and extended MassHousing's lending production.

MassHousing provided \$466.4 million in affordable home loans during fiscal year 2008, setting an agency record for homeownership lending to borrowers with modest incomes and eclipsing the previous record-setting homeownership total of \$425.2 million set in fiscal 2007.

MassHousing's Corporate Communications Department received the NCSHA's award for Promotional Materials and Newsletters as part of the Opportunity Knocks homebuyer fairs. Opportunity Knocks was created and sponsored by MassHousing in conjunction with the Massachusetts Association of REALTORS® and announced by Lt. Gov. Tim Murray on behalf of the Patrick-Murray administration.

In promoting Opportunity Knocks, MassHousing created the [masshomefair.com](http://masshomefair.com) website dedicated to the homebuyer fairs, and produced numerous marketing materials, press releases and advertising to publicize Opportunity Knocks.

MassHousing also received the NCSHA's award for Special Needs Housing for MassHousing's financing of Treehouse at Easthampton Meadow, a 60-unit mixed-income community where senior citizens, foster children and their permanent adoptive families live together and care for one another. Developed by the Treehouse Foundation, Treehouse at Easthampton Meadow provides a multi-generational approach to support adoptive families of foster children as well as elders who wish to serve as neighborhood partners. The design of the neighborhood resembles a traditional village center with walkways, play areas, friendly front porches and ample room for the activities of residents of all ages.

“MassHousing is proud and pleased to accept these three prestigious awards from the National Council of State Housing Finance Agencies,” said Gleason. “These awards illuminate the dedication and innovation MassHousing puts forth every day to produce and preserve quality affordable housing for the residents of Massachusetts. It is our hope that other state housing finance agencies across the country replicate these successful MassHousing programs to increase affordable housing opportunities on a national level.”

The NCSHA presented Gleason with a special Impact Award for his work on an affinity agreement with Fannie Mae. The agreement provides housing finance agencies access to Fannie Mae programs at favorable terms and makes more affordable home loans available to moderate-income homebuyers.

**About MassHousing**

MassHousing (The Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency) is an independent, quasi-public agency created in 1966 and charged with providing financing for affordable housing in Massachusetts. The Agency raises capital by selling bonds and lends the proceeds to low- and moderate-income homebuyers and homeowners, and to developers who build or preserve affordable and/or mixed-income rental housing. MassHousing does not use taxpayer dollars to sustain its operations, although it administers some publicly funded programs on behalf of the Commonwealth. Since its inception, MassHousing has provided more than \$5.6 billion for rental housing and more than \$4.8 billion for homeownership. For more information, visit the MassHousing website at [www.masshousing.com](http://www.masshousing.com).

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