



Downtown Emergency Service Center

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DOWNTOWN EMERGENCY SERVICE CENTER WINS MAXWELL AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On Friday January 25, Fannie Mae Foundation and Partnership to End Long Term Homelessness presented the Downtown Emergency Service Center (DESC) with the 2007 “Maxwell Award of Excellence” for their 1811 Eastlake supportive housing project for chronic alcoholics. The Fannie Mae Foundation also awarded DESC a \$75,000 grant to continue its work in the field of supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals.

“We are truly honored to receive this prestigious recognition on behalf of the many organizations and individuals who made DESC's 1811 Eastlake possible. Measurable positive changes in the lives of its residents and in the livability of Seattle, hopefully, will inspire other communities to replicate this ‘housing first’ model,” said Bill Hobson, executive director of the Downtown Emergency Service Center.

“The Fannie Mae Foundation commends the Downtown Emergency Service Center for their outstanding efforts to prevent and end homelessness. The Downtown Emergency Service Center is a true leader in the field of supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals and we are pleased to honor them,” said Peter Beard, executive director of the Fannie Mae Foundation.

“Downtown Emergency Service Center has greatly improved the lives of chronically homeless individuals through its ability to provide appropriate supportive services and permanent housing for its tenants. They are a wonderful example of an organization committed to ending homelessness in their communities,” said Bob Hohler, executive director of the Melville Charitable Trust and executive committee chairman of the Partnership to End Long Term Homelessness.

Winners were selected by an independent advisory committee for having produced the best examples of supportive housing in four categories: Housing for Homeless Veterans; Housing for Chronically Homeless Individuals; Housing for Homeless Youth; and Housing for Homeless Families. Downtown Emergency Service Center won the award for Housing Chronically Homeless Individuals. Maxwell Award winners’ case studies are posted on the Partnership to End Long Term Homelessness website at www.endlongtermhomelessness.org.

Created in 1988, the Fannie Mae Foundation’s Maxwell Awards program seeks to encourage and recognize the outstanding work of nonprofit organizations that develop and maintain affordable housing in urban, metropolitan, and rural communities across the country. This was the seventeenth annual awards ceremony. The awards are named in honor of David O. Maxwell, who retired in 1991 after 10 years of service as chairman and chief executive officer of Fannie Mae and chairman of the board for the Fannie Mae Foundation.

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The Fannie Mae Foundation is a private nonprofit organization, supported solely by Fannie Mae that creates affordable homeownership and housing opportunities across the United States.

STYLE USAGE: The Fannie Mae Foundation is a separate legal entity from Fannie Mae (a NYSE-listed company). In order to facilitate clarity and avoid confusion, news organizations are asked to refer to the Foundation exclusively as "the Fannie Mae Foundation" or "the Foundation," but not as "Fannie Mae."