CONGRESSMAN TIBERI RECEIVES 2 AWARDS FOR SUPPORT OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

(COLUMBUS) — Congressman Patrick J. Tiberi today received two awards for his support of affordable housing, specifically his role in preserving the fixed 9% credit rate for the low income housing tax credit program (LIHTC).

The awards ceremony was held at Elim Manor, an apartment community for low income senior citizens on Columbus's east side. Owned by local non-profit Homeport, Elim Manor was built with financing through the LIHTC program.

“Thank you Congressman Tiberi for fighting for the tools that Homeport and other affordable housing providers need to create quality, energy efficient and affordable homes for our citizens! We are proud to have such a hard working and influential political leader working for us in Ohio,” said Homeport President/CEO Amy Klaben.

The Congressman received two awards. The Homeport award is its inaugural “Champion of Affordable Homes.”

“Representative Tiberi played an essential role in preserving the fixed 9% credit rate for the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program and ensured its inclusion in H.R. 8, the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, passed on January 2, 2013. Thanks to Congressman Tiberi’s support of this vital program, Homeport and other affordable housing owners will be able to continue to provide safe and decent housing to residents, regardless of their income,” said Homeport Board of Directors Chair Bruce Luecke of Nationwide Bank.

The OHC award is called “Affordable Housing Champion.” The OHC award is for Congressman Tiberi’s support for LIHTC and his willingness to support the program in Congress and to address the affordable housing needs of his district and the nation.

“Thanks to the leadership of Rep. Tiberi, Ohio's, and Columbus's, voice is heard. His support for affordable housing issues spans his Congressional career. And we are grateful. However, it is not just those of us in the room who are thankful, but the thousands of residents in our communities across the state and nation who have benefitted,” said Tom Feusse, Ohio Housing Council Board President and CEO of The Wallick Companies.
Other speakers included Randolf Wilson, Director of Multi-Family Development Housing at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority President and CEO Charles Hillman.

“Federal programs like LIHTC make a home a reality for many Ohioans. Thank you Representative Tiberi for your leadership and continued support of programs to help Ohioans have a place to call home,” said Doug Garver, President, Ohio Housing Finance Authority.

“Pat Tiberi has long been a champion on affordable housing issues. After advancing the cause affordable housing in his previous role on the House Financial Services Committee, Pat, in his leadership position on the House Ways and Means Committee, is now working to preserve and strengthen the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program. That program is the primary driver of affordable rental housing construction and rehabilitation,” said Hal Keller, President, Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing.

There is a significant need for safe and decent affordable housing in the Columbus area. There are only 27 units of affordable housing available for every 100 extremely low-income households, defined as a family of four earning less than $19,172 annually.

The LIHTC program offers banks, insurance companies and other private institutional investors a tax credit incentive for investing in affordable housing. The LIHTC program is the primary way to build and renovate affordable housing today in the United States.

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**About:**

Homeport is a private non-profit organization whose mission it is to create and preserve healthy, stable and affordable communities, one neighborhood, one person at a time by:

• Developing quality and energy efficient homes
• Providing consistent and transformative education and services to address each resident’s unique barriers to, and opportunities for, success
• Involving and empowering residents
• Focusing on community revitalization
• Creating strong and fruitful collaborations

For more information, please visit: [www.homeportohio.org](http://www.homeportohio.org).

Ohio Housing Council is a statewide association of affordable housing professionals whose goal is to increase production and preservation of affordable housing in the state of Ohio. The Council works with affordable housing developers around the state to increase their participation in public policy debates and steer proposed regulatory requirements that could have a significant impact on the affordable housing industry in Ohio. Learn more at [www.ohiohousingcouncil.com](http://www.ohiohousingcouncil.com).