



**For Immediate Release
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**Contact: Charlie Maier 301-424-4141
Lise Tracey, 301-520-1587
Susan Yancy 240-773-9060**

**LONG-TIME AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVOCATE ANNIE B. ALSTON TO RECEIVE TOP
COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD AT MAY 9 AFFORDABLE HOUSING SUMMIT**

*Former Head of the Housing Opportunities Commission touched the lives of thousands of residents
of affordable housing for 39 years in Montgomery County*



North Bethesda, MD – Annie B. Alston will receive the annual Senator Paul Sarbanes Award for Excellence in Community Service at the 20th Annual Affordable Housing Summit sponsored by the Affordable Housing Conference of Montgomery County on Monday, May 9, 2011.

“Annie Alston’s contributions to expanding affordable housing in Montgomery County are numerous,” said Barbara Goldberg Goldman, co-chair of the Affordable Housing Conference.

“Not only was she involved in “bricks and mortar” decisions involving the expansion of affordable housing construction in Montgomery County, but she also extended herself personally to residents of affordable housing in our community. She stood up for their interests and made sure that any decision affecting their homes and their lives served them well,” Goldman added.

Annie Alston worked for the Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC), Montgomery County’s housing authority, for 39 years, beginning as an intake clerk in the agency’s Public Housing program. Over the course of her career, she worked in many areas of the agency and served as Special Assistant and chief of Staff to three HOC Executive Directors. Alston was selected to head HOC in 2008 and retired from that position in January 2011.

The Sarbanes award will be presented to Ms. Alston on Monday, May 9 at the Bethesda North Marriott Conference Center in North Bethesda, MD during the event luncheon at 12:45 p.m.

The 2011 Affordable Housing Summit, “20/20 Vision for Affordable Housing in Montgomery County,” will feature a lineup of workshops and panels of interest to developers and others involved in affordable housing in Montgomery County. The conference brochure can be found online at:

<http://www.affordablehousingconference.org/pdf/2011summitagenda.pdf>

Governor Martin O’Malley will give the luncheon keynote address at 12:45 p.m. For more information contact Lise Tracey at: 301-520-1587.

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