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## **AVESTA HOUSING PRESENTS MISSION CHAMPION AWARD TO LEWISTON HOUSING ADVOCATE**

LEWISTON, Maine — Avesta Housing, the largest nonprofit affordable housing provider in northern New England, has presented its Mission Champion Award to Misty Parker, assistant director of Economic & Community Development for the City of Lewiston.

Avesta's Mission Champion Award is presented annually to an individual or organization who has made significant contributions to the promotion and provision of affordable housing. Winners of the award embody Avesta's belief that *everyone deserves a safe, affordable place to call home.*

Parker has been at the center of Lewiston's immense efforts to improve and increase safe, affordable housing options for its citizens. She has been a strategic and compassionate leader with an eye on transforming neighborhoods to create a healthy, thriving community for all Lewiston residents.

Avesta Housing President & CEO Rebecca Hatfield and Board Directors Lynne Roche and Amy Smith presented the award to Parker at Lewiston City Hall on Tuesday.

"Misty is a transformational leader who works tirelessly to make Lewiston a welcoming and inclusive home for everyone," Hatfield said. "She is also a very supportive partner to Avesta and embodies our mission and values. We are incredibly excited to present her with this award in recognition of her efforts."

"I am deeply honored to Avesta Housing for presenting me with its Mission Champion Award. It serves as a powerful reminder of the critical importance of housing throughout the state of Maine," Parker said. "Housing not only addresses the need for shelter but also serves as a catalyst for economic development, creating a ripple effect that benefits both families and the broader market rate housing sector. I am truly touched by this recognition, and it further fuels my commitment to working towards equitable and accessible housing solutions for all."

**PHOTO:** Avesta Housing President & CEO Rebecca Hatfield, at right, and Avesta Housing Board Directors Lynne Roche and Amy Smith present Avesta's Mission Champion Award to Misty Parker in the city council chambers of Lewiston City Hall. (Avesta Housing photo)

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### *About Avesta Housing*

*Avesta Housing is a nonprofit affordable housing provider with more than 50 years of experience as a leader in affordable housing development and property management in Maine and New Hampshire. The organization is headquartered in Portland, Maine, and operates more than 100 affordable properties, more than 3,000 apartments and two assisted living facilities, providing safe, affordable homes for more than 4,000 people every day. Avesta's mission is to improve lives and strengthen communities by promoting and providing quality affordable homes for people in need. [www.AvestaHousing.org](http://www.AvestaHousing.org)*

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