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**The St. Aidan, Adaptive Reuse of Noted Boston-Area Church, Wins Project of the Year Award for Mixed-Income Housing**

*Recognized for the innovative transformation of a former church in Brookline, Mass., into a highly successful 59-unit mixed-income smart growth development, The St. Aidan, designed by The Architectural Team, Inc., received a Grand Award as Project of the Year from Multifamily Executive (MFE) magazine.*

**Chelsea, MA, October 28, 2010** – The award-winning Boston-based architecture, historic preservation and master-planning firm The Architectural Team, Inc., announced that one of its new projects, The St. Aidan, has received the Project of the Year – Grand Award in the mixed-income category from *Multifamily Executive* magazine.

The honor for best mixed-income development was presented to The St. Aidan's developer, Boston-based Planning Office for Urban Affairs (POUA). The project represents one of more than 450 multifamily housing developments designed by The Architectural Team over the past four decades, the majority of which include an affordable housing component.

"We are proud to have the industry recognize the important work of one of our long-time clients," said Robert J. Verrier, AIA, managing principal of The Architectural Team. "This collaborative and innovative design effort benefits families at all income levels. We were able to preserve an important historic landmark for new use, as well as provide high-quality, safe and attractive housing for those who would not have been able to afford it otherwise."

According to the developer, the project helps to bridge the economic gap in an affluent community by providing reasonably priced housing for both renters and first-time homebuyers. A recent *Boston Globe* article said, "Affordable housing advocates hail St. Aidan's as one of the success stories" of the state's affordable housing law.

The St. Aidan church, originally built in 1911 and the site of President John F. Kennedy's baptism, was preserved through adaptive reuse that converted the structure into nine luxury condominiums. The development also includes 20 new lower-income rental units, 16 moderate-income condominiums, and 14 market-rate units, completing the mixed-income package.

Said Lisa Alberghini, president of POUA, “We are pleased to be recognized for a project we truly believe in – a development that preserves a community’s historic fabric while creating lasting community through an affordable, mixed-income approach. We are grateful to our entire team for their contribution to that vision, and especially to The Architectural Team for their extraordinary work.”

Flooded with 250 entries for this year’s project competition, the panel of judges for *Multifamily Executive’s* “Project of the Year” Awards – consisting of the magazine’s editors and six industry professionals – had their work cut out for them in selecting this year’s winners. “In an environment where breaking ground still seems almost unachievable, the 2010 winners demonstrate the tenacity and vision that are required to keep the future of multifamily development bright,” said Shabnam Mogharabi, *Multifamily Executive* editor-in-chief. “We were truly impressed by the caliber of the projects and designs we saw this year.”

The Planning Office for Urban Affairs was presented with the award at the annual MFE Awards ceremony in Las Vegas on Oct. 5th. The St. Aidan project will be the subject of a feature article in *Multifamily Executive’s* November issue.

For more information about The Architectural Team and its projects, visit [www.architecturalteam.com](http://www.architecturalteam.com). For details on the Project of the Year Awards, visit *Multifamily Executive’s* [awards website](#).

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## About The Architectural Team, Inc.

Founded in 1971, The Architectural Team, Inc. is a 50-person architectural firm that has grown through its design excellence and commitment to responsive and collaborative client relationships. The Architectural Team has developed a portfolio of distinctive design solutions for a broad range of building types and programs, and has earned more than 75 awards for design excellence. These include the new construction of large urban mixed-use developments, residential, commercial, hospitality, recreational, and academic facilities, as well as a national reputation in the area of historic preservation and adaptive reuse. The firm is located in the restored 1840s-era Commandant’s House in Chelsea, Mass. Visit the firm’s website at [www.architecturalteam.com](http://www.architecturalteam.com).