



# *PRESS RELEASE*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Executive Alliance Announces 2008 Leadership Award Recipient**

**Nonprofit Executive, Robin Lester Earns Recognition for 15 year Pursuit of Social Justice and Economic Equity for Underprivileged.**

**SEATTLE, WA**– June 6, 2008 -- Executive Alliance (EA) is pleased to announce the recipient of its seventh annual leadership award to advance a powerful nonprofit sector at its Annual Meeting on **June 12, 2008, 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the Fairview Club, in Seattle, WA.** The annual leadership award is given to an outstanding executive who is dedicated to advancing the nonprofit sector through exemplary leadership.

Robin Lester, the Chief Executive Officer of Washington Women’s Employment & Education (WWEE), a social service organization in South Puget Sound, will receive this year’s award among her colleagues who represent over 200 nonprofits in the greater Puget Sound Area. “I am elated to be a part of such important work in our community and honored to be this year’s EA Leadership Award recipient,” said Ms. Lester, a 15 year advocate of social justice and economic equity for the underprivileged. As the leader of WWEE, an organization that offers education and training to low-income participants leaving welfare and entering the workforce in King and Pierce County, Robin understands the value of hard work and sacrifice to make major strides in life. She sees it everyday in the lives of the women and families that she and her organization serves.

“I am proud to play a role in this memorable occasion. EA represents the best and the brightest talent that the nonprofit sector affords, and Robin Lester is an excellent example of it,” stated Howard Behar, author of the *It’s Not about the Coffee*, and former President of Starbucks North America and Starbucks International. Behar will be the keynote speaker for the June 12<sup>th</sup> EA Annual Meeting.

For additional information on the news that is the subject of this release, contact Yalonda Gill Masundiré or visit [www.exec-alliance.org](http://www.exec-alliance.org).

**About Executive Alliance:**

Founded in 2000, Executive Alliance (EA) is a nonprofit membership association serving the Puget Sound Region.

Executive Alliance is a community of nonprofits who share the vision of a strong nonprofit sector. With members ranging from grassroots startup nonprofits to established law firms, from consultants to CEOs, our work in leadership development and advocacy on behalf of the nonprofit sector is crucial to the health of the of the nonprofit sector in the Puget Sound region. EA strives to create a strong sector from the inside, with our work connecting nonprofit leaders through our events, programs and services, and from the outside, with our work educating nonprofit leaders and the community on our missions, our impact and our value.

**About Robin Lester:**

Robin Lester holds a law degree from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law as well as a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with emphasis in Marketing and Finance. She is admitted to practice law in the State of Washington, the U.S. District Court, and the Western District of Washington. She has served on community-based boards, commissions and task forces over the past 15-years in the Puget Sound area. She currently serves as secretary of the South King Council of Human Services; a leader on the Pierce County Asset Building Coalition Executive Committee; Legislative Committee member of the Pierce County Human Services Coalition and provides pro bono legal services through the Thurston County Volunteer Legal Clinics.

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