



REACH

Community Development, Inc.

1135 SE Salmon Street • Portland, OR 97214 • 503.231.0682 • Fax: 503.236.3429 • www.reachcdc.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Grainger Steps Up to Support Affordable Housing in Portland

Volunteer Event Follows \$30,000 Donation from The Grainger Foundation to Support REACH Community Development

Portland, Ore. (August 1, 2009) – Today, more than 280 volunteers will lend a hand to help paint and repair more than 22 homes of low income seniors at the 20th annual REACH Paint-and-Repair-a-thon with one of Portland's largest affordable housing developers, REACH Community Development.

Local facilities maintenance supplier, Grainger, has stepped up to offer more than 30 employee volunteers and their families to help. In addition to volunteer support, local Grainger branch managers Jeremy Deeney, Rolando Calderon and Mike Hoxie will present a \$30,000 donation to REACH on behalf of The Grainger Foundation.

"It is partnerships with companies like Grainger that enable us to help more people in the community. We truly value their support," said Dee Walsh, Executive Director of REACH.

The donation will be used to support REACH programs, including Resident Services, Youth\$ave, and the Community Builders Program. These programs focus on providing supports for REACH residents to maintain their housing, prevent evictions, and build their personal assets through financial education. REACH also offers a free home repair program to Portland's low-income seniors, providing repairs such as building wheelchair accessibility ramps and home painting. The Community Builders Program is a wonderful opportunity for concerned citizens to become involved in revitalizing their community.

"Grainger believes in giving back in the communities where our employees and customers live and work," said Jeremy Deeney, Grainger branch manager. "We chose to partner with REACH because of their demonstrated commitment to ensuring local families have stable homes in these challenging times."

About REACH

REACH Community Development is a private nonprofit community development corporation that provides innovative and affordable housing for low-income families and individuals in the Portland area. We fulfill our mission by developing and managing affordable housing and providing supportive services to our residents, as well as free home repair to senior homeowners. In 1982, REACH began revitalization efforts in the neighborhoods of inner southeast Portland by buying and renovating single family homes. Our portfolio now includes new and renovated plexes, apartment buildings and mixed-use developments located across the City of Portland. Currently, REACH owns over 1,300 units of housing and has provided over 6,000 home repairs to Portland's vulnerable senior homeowners.

About Grainger

Illinois-based W.W. Grainger, Inc. (NYSE: GWW), with 2008 sales of \$6.9 billion, is the leading broad line supplier of facilities maintenance products serving businesses and institutions in the United States, Canada, Mexico, China and Panama. Through a highly integrated network including more than 600 branches, 18 distribution centers and multiple Web sites, Grainger's employees help customers get the job done.

Media interested in learning more:

REACH - Dee Walsh at (503) 231-0682 ext.130 or dwalsh@reachcdc.org

Grainger - JP Clark at (949) 300-3943 or jp.clark@grainger.com

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