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**REACH Receives Second Award of \$750,000 To Build 57
Affordable Homes in Washington County**

Nonprofit to build first "Passive House" multi-family project in Oregon

PORTLAND, Ore. – February 19, 2013—[REACH Community Development](http://www.reachcdc.org) today received a second award of \$750,000 of federal HOME funds (Home Investment Partnerships Program Funds) from Washington County to build phase one of The Orchards at Orenco—a 57-unit affordable apartment community in Hillsboro, Oregon. This brings the award to a total of \$1.5 million in federal HOME funds. The apartments will be located near the Orenco MAX station and built using Passive House energy efficient standards, a method of construction that reduces energy use and heating bills by up to 90%.

As Hillsboro's population outpaces the housing supply and a rental housing shortage becomes more likely, REACH is addressing this demand by building The Orchards at Orenco, a three phase, 150-unit development with rents affordable to residents earning approximately 50% of Median Family Income (MFI), or \$25,000 for a single-person household. The Orchards at Orenco will be one of the first multi-family projects in the United States built to Passive House standards. Passive House standards reduce heating and cooling requirements, while simultaneously creating excellent indoor air quality. These standards support REACH's efforts to incorporate green, sustainable building measures which create healthy living environments and provide residents long-term cost savings.

"We're very pleased to have awarded REACH \$1.5 million in federal HOME funds to develop one of the first affordable housing projects at Orenco Station in Hillsboro," says Jennie Proctor, Program Manager in the Office of Community Development for Washington County. "With the current economic growth occurring in Washington County, it's important that organizations like REACH and the County take a comprehensive approach to building affordable, safe, and attractive homes for our expanding workforce."

"REACH is excited to begin developing affordable, energy efficient homes in Washington County, enabling us to address the growth of companies like Intel and Kaiser Permanente. The location will allow working families and individuals with modest incomes to enjoy a quality living environment at an affordable rate," says Kathy Kniep, REACH's Interim Executive Director. Construction on Phase I is projected to begin in spring 2014.



A healthy community begins at home

For updates on the Orchards at Orenco project, please visit <http://reachcdc.org/about-us/projects-in-the-pipeline/>

About REACH CDC

For 30 years, REACH has built innovative and affordable housing for low-income families and individuals in the Portland metropolitan region. REACH develops and manages affordable housing and provides supportive services to our residents, as well as free home repairs to senior homeowners. Today, REACH's portfolio includes 1,607 units including single family homes, apartment buildings, and mixed-use developments located across the region. REACH has won numerous state and national awards for its creative approach to building healthy communities and its innovative housing projects. More information at <http://reachcdc.org>.