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**REACH CDC Brings Home Repair Program to Washougal, WA**

*Program addresses critical aging-in-place needs in the community*

**PORTLAND, Ore.** – July 14, 2014 – REACH CDC's Community Builders Program (CBP), is hosting a Community Work Day event, providing free home repairs for senior and disabled homeowners in Washougal, WA on **Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>**. Over 80 volunteers are coming together to complete house painting, a yard clean-up, carpentry, and accessibility improvements for three homeowners. The event will take place from **8:30 – 12:30 pm** beginning at **1085 12th St, Washougal, WA 98671**.

The CBP began modestly a decade ago, a few neighbors painting three homes. Today, through funding from the Portland Housing Bureau, the program serves close to 200 homeowners and makes over 1,000 free repairs each year for Portland homeowners. It's like no other program in our region in its mission, scope and commitment to safe housing for low-income elderly and disabled homeowners. The services address significant public health concerns due to sub-standard and unsafe housing conditions; they improve the quality of each recipient's life, helping homeowners avoid displacement due to gentrification and poverty, all the while bringing neighbors and area businesses together in the spirit of volunteerism.

In 2013, REACH merged with Affordable Community Environments of Vancouver, WA, enabling REACH to offer the CBP in Washougal, WA with funds from the Clark County Community Department Block Grant Program. Saturday's volunteer event is underwritten with support from JP Morgan Chase, Macy's, and On Point Community Credit Union. In-kind support is being donated by Miller Paint, LMC Construction, Lutz Hardware, OurBar, Marley Brown Lumber, and Al Stern Photography.

**About REACH CDC**

For 32 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 residents, as well as free home repairs to senior homeowners. Today, REACH's portfolio includes 1,852 units including single family homes, apartment buildings, and mixed-use developments located across Multnomah, Clark, and Washington counties. 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>.