

**Media Contact**

Laura J. Recko  
(971) 277-7175

[lrecko@reachcdc.org](mailto:lrecko@reachcdc.org)

**Congressman Blumenauer Welcomes New Senior Housing**

*REACH opens 60 new affordable homes in the Gateway Urban Renewal District*

**PORTLAND, Ore.** – June 13, 2015 – REACH CDC is proud to welcome Congresswoman Earl Blumenauer to celebrate the grand opening of Gilman Court, a new transit-oriented development located in Portland’s Gateway Urban Renewal District less than a third of a mile from the MAX light rail. It includes unique options for seniors to access Ride Connection on-site providing door-to-door transportation options. The celebration takes place on **Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to 4:30 pm at 610 NE 99<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland, Oregon** (parking at Elks Lodge on 711 NE 100<sup>th</sup> Ave and surrounding streets) In addition to keynote Blumenauer, REACH will welcome City Commissioner Dan Saltzman and Bank of America Merrill Lynch President Roger Hinshaw.

“Organizations like REACH are essential to providing innovative solutions for affordable housing. Gilman Court is good for our region and will address the housing needs of those who need it most. I hope we can continue to see partnerships such as this flourish to meet our housing demand,” says Congressman Blumenauer.

Gilman Court is the second phase of a unique two-phase development and addresses the rapidly growing shortage of affordable housing in the Portland metropolitan region. Gilman Court is owned and was developed by REACH. It includes a 60-unit residential building for seniors earning 30-60% of area Median Family Income (MFI), or \$15,000-\$30,000 for a single-person household. All 60 one-bdrm apartments have rents ranging from \$605 (56 units @ 60% MFI) to \$325 (4 units @ 30% MFI). REACH is providing all Property Management services to the residential buildings while Human Solutions, developer on Glisan Commons (Phase I) is providing all Residential Services. Gilman Court is nearly leased up. Amenities included generous outdoor spaces, patios, community courtyard, and features to aid seniors to “age in place.” Green features include Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification, water conservation features, garden boxes, and participation in the “Green Streets” Program (bio swales installed to treat storm water runoff). Glisan Commons (Phase I) was developed by Human Solutions and opened in February 2014. It includes 67 units of workforce housing available to those earning 30-60% of area MFI. The building also includes 16,000 square feet of commercial space to be owned and operated by Ride



Connection, a transportation service provider catering to seniors and people with disabilities.

Gilman Court has been named after REACH's founding Executive Director Dennis Gilman (1948-2001), born and raised in Salem, OR. Dennis held a passion for building strong communities and was responsible for some of REACH's early projects. He also helped to develop the Oak Street Rowhouses whose passive solar energy flooring drew the attention of President Jimmy Carter in 1981. In 1986, he was awarded the "Spirit of Portland Award" for Volunteer of the Year. He was a loving and devoted family man and lived a life dedicated to the ideals of community, equality and preservation of the environment.

The development team included REACH CDC, Carleton Hart Architects, the Housing Development Center and R & H/Colas Construction. Funding partners included Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Enterprise Community Partners, Network for Oregon Affordable Housing (NOAH), Oregon Housing and Community Services, and the Portland Housing Bureau.

#### **About REACH CDC**

For 33 years, REACH has built innovative and affordable housing for low-income families and individuals in Oregon and Washington. 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 2,073 units of single family homes, apartment buildings, and mixed-use developments. 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>.