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**REACH Receives the Oregon Opportunity Network  
2015 Golden Hammer Award**

*Orchards at Orenco wins prestigious industry award*

**PORTLAND, Ore.** – September 22, 2015 - Today, REACH's Orchards at Orenco development received the Oregon Opportunity Network 2015 Golden Hammer Award. Oregon Opportunity Network is a membership-based, statewide association of affordable housing and community development organizations that provide housing and economic opportunity for working families, people with disabilities, seniors and others struggling to meet their needs in communities throughout Oregon. The award is presented to honor a multifamily rental project in Oregon that best shows the ideals of affordability, quality of design, livability, community revitalization or service integration. The annual awards gala celebrates the outstanding achievements of Oregon's affordable housing and community development industry.

Orchards at Orenco is the largest certified multi-family building built to Passive House energy standards in North America. Tenants will receive unprecedented savings on their energy bills, achieving nearly 90% energy reduction for heat usage and 60-70% for overall energy use as compared to a LEED Certified building. Orchards at Orenco is also bringing affordable, sustainable living to low-income workers. The beneficiaries include households earning incomes of 50% Median Family Income (MFI) or less, or \$36,750 for a family of four. Rents at the 57-unit Phase I building will range from \$611-\$733/month. Eight of the 57 units will have project-based Department of Housing and Urban Development Section 8 vouchers and will be targeted to households earning 30% MFI or less, or \$20,820 for a family of four. Passive House has typically been reserved for middle and high income earners. Orchards will be one of the first to offer the benefits and savings to low-income individuals.

REACH assembled a Portland-based team of design, development and construction firms including Walsh Construction Co. (general contractor); Ankrom Moisan Architects (architects of record); William Wilson Architects (architect of design); Housing Development Center (construction manager); Green Hammer, Inc. (Passive House consultants); Housing Authority of Washington County (limited partner); and PHIUS (Passive House Institute of the United States). The \$14.5 million project is financed with funding from Wells Fargo, the Community Housing Fund, Meyer Memorial Trust,



A healthy community begins at home

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Network for Oregon Affordable Housing (NOAH), Oregon Housing and Community Services, NeighborWorks® America, and the Washington County Office of Community Development.

"REACH is very grateful to receive this high honor," says CEO Dan Valliere. "The Orchards exemplifies our efforts to create quality, affordable living opportunities for low-income individuals. To be recognized by our industry peers in Oregon is a testament to the vision and hard work of REACH and all of our partners."

### **About REACH CDC**

For 33 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 1,892 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>.