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**REACH Joins Forces with Affordable Community Environments**

*Strategic Partnership to Bring More Affordable Housing to the Pacific Northwest*

**Portland, Ore** – May 15, 2013 – [REACH Community Development](#) today announced a strategic partnership with [Affordable Community Environments](#) (ACE) of Southwest Washington, as ACE joins REACH as a subsidiary corporation. With a combined history of over 45 years of providing safe, quality and affordable housing in Oregon and Washington, both organizations fill a critical regional need for affordable housing across both states.

According to Harvard's Center for Housing Policy, today 22% of Washingtonians and 26% of Oregonians are "severely cost burdened" meaning these households spend more than 50% of their income on housing costs. Declining incomes along with relatively high unemployment rates and a sluggish economic recovery continue to place pressure on individuals and families seeking affordable housing. The need is outstripping the supply. The combined portfolio of REACH and ACE includes nearly 1,900 units of housing which will continue to provide low-income Oregonians and Washingtonians with safe and stable homes.

"ACE is very pleased to be joining forces with REACH," says Doug McLain, long-standing ACE Board Member and Treasurer. "This partnership comes at a critical time when nonprofits, big and small, are looking toward strategies for long-term sustainability. Combining resources, knowledge and our collective reputations will allow ACE to have a bigger and better impact in Southwest Washington."

"We're proud to celebrate this milestone event," says REACH's Executive Director Dan Valliere. "Having decent and affordable housing is a cornerstone of personal and community well-being. When it's not available, it's cause for great concern. Together, both REACH and ACE are better able to meet the persistent need for affordable housing for all members of the community."

**About REACH CDC**

For 31 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 1,658 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



A healthy community begins at home

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creative approach to building healthy communities and its innovative housing projects. REACH is based in Portland, Oregon. More information at <http://reachcdc.org>

**About Affordable Community Environments**

For 15 years, ACE has been building innovative and affordable housing for low-income families and individuals in Southwest Washington. ACE develops and manages affordable housing and provides supportive services to their residents. ACE maintains a portfolio of 198 units across Clark County including workforce, senior and disabled housing, and housing for families. ACE has won numerous awards for their innovative design. ACE is based in Vancouver, Washington. ACE is a nonprofit corporation governed by a community-based Board of Directors. More information at <http://acecommunities.org/>

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