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REACH Honors Jewish Service Week

50 Teens Help 'Repair the World' in Portland

Portland, Ore – April 26, 2013 – Fifty area teens, along with 10,000 Jewish teens from across North America, Europe, and Israel, will participate in a day of community service and improvement projects as they take part in **J-Serve**, an International Day of Jewish Youth Service on **Sunday, April 28th from 10-3 pm at 1225 SE Belmont St.** with [REACH Community Development](#).

REACH is partnering with [Tivnuu: Building Justice](#) a service learning organization that braids together advocacy for the fulfillment of basic human needs, Jewish study, and construction work and training. The teens will be aiding REACH in providing clean-up services at the [Ritzdorf Court Apartments](#), a 90 unit apartment building owned and managed by REACH which offers permanent housing for those who are currently homeless or have been homeless. The teens will be painting, installing garden beds, and learning more about REACH.

“Having partners like Tivnuu support REACH’s work is critical,” says Brooks Nelson, Facilities Manager. “Organizations like Tivnuu help leverage the resources REACH provides to build and maintain safe and affordable housing for our community. We’re thrilled to team up with them.”

This project is one of over 100 international projects in which 6th through 12th grade teens will participate as they explore the Jewish values of *gemilut chasidim*, acts of loving kindness; *tzedakah*, just and charitable giving; and *tikkum olam*, the responsibility to repair the world. This year marks the ninth year that Jewish youth from around the world will turn out in force for J-Serve in an effort to encourage community building and connections across religious and societal lines.

J-Serve 2013 is the Jewish service component of Youth Service America’s annual Global Youth Service Day and is a collaboration of [BBYO](#) and [Repair the World](#). J-Serve is generously underwritten by the *Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation* and is supported by partner agencies Foundation for Jewish Camp, JCCA, Jewish Federations, Jewish Student Unions, Jewish Teen Funders Network, NCSY, NFTY, Rock the Vote, USY and Young Judea.



A healthy community begins at home

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 1,658 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 creative approach to building healthy communities and its innovative housing projects. More information at <http://reachcdc.org>.

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