

**Media Contact**

Laura J. Recko  
(503) 231-0682 x7175  
[lrecko@reachcdc.org](mailto:lrecko@reachcdc.org)

**REACH CDC Joins Cedar Sinai Health Collaborative**

*Innovative health collaborative will serve low-income seniors and people with disabilities*

**PORTLAND, Ore.** – May 20, 2014 – The CEO of REACH CDC joins the CEO's of nine other non-profit agencies in the Portland metro area on **Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> \* 11:30 – 1:00 pm** at the Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Health & Social Service Center, **1226 SW 12<sup>th</sup> Ave, Portland** to join the Cedar Sinai Limited Liability Corporation (LLC) Health Services Collaborative for the purpose of helping older adults and those with disabilities living in affordable-housing. The nine organizations represented include Cedar Sinai Park, CareOregon, Home Forward, Cascadia Behavioral Health, Asian Health and Service Center, Lifeworks NW, Sinai Family Home Services, Jewish Family & Child Services, and REACH CDC.

The purpose of the LLC is to develop a home and community-based system for residents in eleven affordable-housing buildings located in downtown Portland. The program will provide onsite care coordination by registered nurses and health navigation by social service staff to improve residents' access to physical health and mental health services; connect to community resources; and lead to improved health outcomes for people while also lowering costs. The project will begin on July 1<sup>st</sup> by providing services to people insured through CareOregon's Medicaid plan. It is anticipated that additional insurers will be added to the program and additional insured residents will have the opportunity to participate. "By assisting residents in managing their own health more effectively and easing access to services such as mental health care, nutrition support groups, and care planning, we hope to help them to remain independent," said David Fuks, CEO of Cedar Sinai Park.

Increasingly, the impact of stable, affordable housing is moving beyond providing a place to live. Developers such as REACH are focused on providing residents with supports that impact a wide range of quality of life factors including health. Overlay this with the fact that the healthcare system in the United States is currently undergoing an unprecedented period of change. Healthcare reforms precipitated by the Affordable Care Act (ACA) are resulting in a major shift in who has access to health coverage, how healthcare is paid for and how it is delivered. "Health is of paramount concern to all of our residents," says CEO Dan Valliere. "However, we find the most pressing needs at REACH are often among our residents who are 62 years (or older) and/or who are disabled. Joining the Cedar Sinai LLC was a natural fit to address some of the most urgent health needs we see as a provider of affordable housing."



A healthy community begins at home

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Low-income seniors and people with disabilities served by the project will also have access to services being planned in the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Health and Social Service Center. Additionally, the presence of Providence ElderPlace in the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Center will provide an alternative resource for nursing-home-eligible individuals.

**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>.