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REACH Receives \$50,000 Grant from the Kaiser Permanente Community Fund

Grant addresses "upstream" or underlying factors impacting health

PORTLAND, Ore. – December 16, 2013 – Today [REACH CDC](#) announced receipt of a \$50,000 grant from the Kaiser Permanent Community Fund (KPCF) to investigate strategies and best practices to develop and implement a paid job training program for residents of REACH's affordable housing. This program will prepare un- and under-employed residents with barriers to employment to work for REACH in the janitorial, landscaping or other entry level positions currently contracted to outside vendors.

The KPCF fund awarded more than \$2.5 million to 20 organizations across Oregon and Southwest Washington. Awarded annually, these grants address the "upstream" or underlying factors that impact community health. Within the context of health care reform and improved health, the fund currently focuses on three specific social determinants of health: healthy beginnings and early childhood development, educational attainment and economic opportunity. These focus areas were selected for their ability to build community momentum and their potential for long-term impact.

"This initiative will have a significant impact on the work REACH accomplishes with our residents," says CEO Dan Valliere. "These employment opportunities will increase our residents' success. We have an opportunity to address the systemic causes of health outcomes and disparities. Our sincerest thanks to the Northwest Health Foundation for their visionary work and support of organizations like REACH."

"For too many of us, conditions where we're born, learn and live limit our choices and our opportunity to be healthy," says Nichole Maher, President of the Northwest Health Foundation. "The Kaiser Permanente Community Fund supports organizations that are tackling these conditions in innovative ways that are driven by the very communities they seek to impact. We're honored to support exactly this kind of work."

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 1,852 units including single family homes, apartment buildings, and mixed-use developments



A healthy community begins at home

located across Oregon and Washington. 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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