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New Grant Helps Seniors Stay Safe in Their Homes

Free safety repair program being extended to residents of Washougal, Washington

Vancouver, WA – July 11, 2013—[Affordable Community Environments](#) (ACE) and [REACH Community Development](#) today announced receipt of a one-year \$100,000 grant from Clark County Department of Community Services to expand the REACH Community Builders Program (CBP) into Washougal, WA. The CBP is a free home repair program that has operated in the Portland area for over fifteen years.

As part of the recently announced strategic partnership between ACE and REACH, REACH will begin offering the CBP in Washougal, WA in partnership with the City of Washougal and Clark County. The CBP is a unique program designed to help seniors “age in place,” giving them the ability to live in their own home and community safely, independently, and comfortably, regardless of age, income, or ability level. The CBP focuses on addressing significant public health concerns due to sub-standard and unsafe housing conditions. It improves the quality of each recipient’s life and helps homeowners avoid displacement, all the while bringing neighbors and area businesses together in the spirit of volunteerism.

The Washougal Community Builders Program will provide free home repairs for low-income older adults and people with disabilities who own and occupy their home within the city of Washougal. The program will address health and safety concerns, including remediating code violations, accessibility improvements, and energy efficiency improvements. The program will provide a comprehensive home assessment to determine home repair needs, and will offer referrals to other resources as needed. Repairs are scheduled to begin in September 2013. For more information, call (360) 326-4647 and ask for the Community Builders Program or visit <http://acecommunities.org/>.

“REACH is committed to helping seniors and low-income residents live safely and in good health in their homes,” says Dan Valliere, CEO of REACH. “We’re thrilled to be able to offer this free home repair program to our neighbors in Washougal.”

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 195 units across Clark County including workforce, senior and disabled



housing, and housing for families. ACE has won numerous awards for their innovative design. More information at <http://acecommunities.org/>

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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