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**REACH CDC Bids Farewell to Executive Director Dee Walsh,
Stepping Down After 24 Years**

Interim executive director to be named in the coming weeks

PORTLAND, Ore. –Sept. 12, 2012—[REACH Community Development](#), a nonprofit affordable housing developer, today announced the departure of Executive Director Dee Walsh, who will be resigning her position in October 2012. Walsh has served as REACH's executive director for 22 years (serving as assistant director during her initial two years), and leaves a legacy of distinguished service.

Under Walsh's leadership, REACH has become one of the most successful and innovative nonprofit housing developers in the Pacific Northwest. During her tenure, REACH developed or preserved 1,200 units of affordable housing, bringing the organization's total portfolio to over 1,600 units. Walsh also conceptualized and implemented programs to revitalize inner-city residential areas and business districts; created programs to build assets for residents of REACH-owned housing; and developed a volunteer-fueled program to repair homes of low income homeowners. Additionally, Walsh has led REACH's efforts to "green" its real estate portfolio and operations and has pioneered sustainability practices in its new construction.

"It has been a privilege for me to work at REACH," says Walsh. "I have spent nearly half of my life with this organization, and it is a part of me. But I leave knowing REACH is on solid ground and in very capable hands. My sincerest thanks to the entire REACH community for their support as I move on to the next chapter."

"For 22 years, Dee has led one of our strongest community development partners," says City Commissioner Nick Fish. "She shepherded REACH through an amazing period of growth and achieved remarkable successes along the way. The Housing Partnership Network's gain is Portland's loss, and we'll truly miss her leadership."

Walsh is leaving REACH to pursue an opportunity with the [Housing Partnership Network](#) (HPN) as the Executive Vice President of Peer Learning and Membership Engagement. HPN is a business collaborative of the nation's leading housing and community development corporations.



A healthy community begins at home

REACH's Board of Directors will name an interim executive director in the coming weeks, with a permanent choice to be named in the coming months.

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 1,600 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. Oregon Business Magazine has ranked REACH in the Top 10 Nonprofits to Work For in the state of Oregon for the last three years. More information is available at <http://reachcdc.org>.

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