



A healthy community begins at home

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*REACH and Oregon Humanities to Host a Free Discussion
About Life after War*

*Photographer Jim Lomamasson to present Life After War:
Photography and Oral Histories of Coming Home*

PORTLAND, OREGON – March 22, 2012– When does a war end? Does it ever? Many returning soldiers bring wars back with them, and these wars can reach beyond the battlefield or firefight, infiltrating the very thing that defines comfort and safety: home. The trials of homecoming are vast and complex.

Oregon
Humanities

[REACH CDC](#), a nonprofit that provides affordable housing and supportive services for individuals and families, is partnering with [Oregon Humanities](#) to host a free discussion with photographer Jim Lomamasson entitled "Life After War: Photography and Oral Histories of Coming Home" as part of the [Conversation Project](#) on **Wednesday, April 25, 2012 at 6 pm** at the **Ritzdorf Court Apartments, 1225 SE Belmont St., Portland, OR**. The [Conversation Project](#) provides free programs for nonprofit organizations to engage community members in humanities-based discussions about critical issues and ideas.

"REACH is honored to be partnering with Oregon Humanities on this important project," says Debbie Lowder, Resident Services Manager. "As we develop our "Block 49" housing project in the south waterfront and welcome returning vets, it's important for REACH to have a grounded understanding of some of the challenges they'll be facing." Block 49 will include 209 affordable apartments, with 167 of the apartments targeted to working people with modest incomes. The remaining 42 apartments will be set aside for very low-income veterans. Block 49 is scheduled for completion in December 2012.

"Life After War" is hosted by [REACH](#) and sponsored by [Oregon Humanities](#). Photographer Jim Lomamasson lives in Portland, Oregon and received the Dorothea Lange–Paul Taylor Prize for his first book, *Shadow Boxers: Sweat, Sacrifice & The Will To Survive In American Boxing Gyms*. His second book is *Pentimento: Portland's Lost and Found Carousel*. Lomamasson is currently working on a book and traveling exhibition about American veterans from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars called *Exit Wounds: Soldiers' Stories—Life After Iraq and Afghanistan*.

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About REACH CDC

For 30 years, REACH has built innovative and affordable housing for low-income families and individuals in the 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 1,400 units including single family homes, apartment buildings and mixed-use developments located across the City of Portland. REACH has won numerous state and national awards for its creative approach to building healthy communities and its innovative housing projects. More information is available at <http://reachcdc.org>.

About the Oregon Humanities Project

Through the Conversation Project, Oregon Humanities offers free programs that engage community members in thoughtful, challenging conversations about ideas critical to our daily lives and our state's future. Oregon Humanities connects Oregonians to ideas to change lives and transform communities. More information about Oregon Humanities' programs and publications, which include the Conversation Project, Think & Drink, Humanity in Perspective, Happy Camp, Public Program Grants, Responsive Program Grants, and Oregon Humanities magazine, can be found at <http://oregonhumanities.org>. Oregon Humanities is an independent, nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities and a partner of the Oregon Cultural Trust.