



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Housing and Community Services

North Mall Office Building
725 Summer St NE, Suite B
Salem, OR 97301-1266

PHONE: (503) 986-2000

FAX: (503) 986-2020

TTY: (503) 986-2100

www.ohcs.oregon.gov



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Contact: Lisa Joyce, (503) 986-0951, lisa.joyce@state.or.us

Awards honor affordable housing developers and community-based organizations

(SALEM, Ore.) Oregon Housing and Community Services presented awards recognizing achievements of partners in seven different categories at its recent conference in Salem.

“These awards exemplify the 2011 conference theme – Better Together: The Power of Partnerships,” said Margaret Van Vliet, director of OHCS. “Stronger partnerships and creative collaborations help us meet the housing and service needs of Oregonians.”

The 2011 honorees were:

Best New Affordable Housing: Jackson County Housing Authority for Snowberry Brook, Ashland
Snowberry Brook is a new 60-unit housing complex. The department cited the project’s excellent design, proximity to schools and services, and green building features as particularly noteworthy.

Contact: Scott Foster, Housing Authority of Jackson County, (541) 779-5785

Best Community-Based Organization: NEDCO (Neighborhood Economic Development Corporation), Lane County and Mid-Willamette Valley

NEDCO is Oregon’s oldest community development corporation and has helped economically challenged Oregonians become more stable, build assets and achieve homeownership for 32 years. OHCS found NEDCO a valuable partner in implementing the Mortgage Payment Assistance Program in Lane, Marion and Clackamas counties. NEDCO has developed a wide array of innovative partnerships to meet the needs of its community.

Contact: Claire Carpenter-Seguin, NEDCO, (541) 345-7106

Best Homeownership Partnership: Clackamas Community Land Trust, Juneberry Lane, Oregon City

Juneberry is the first certified Earth Advantage Community in the nation. CCLT owns the land and the homeowner owns the house. The homeowner leases the land from CCLT on a 99-year renewable lease. Through the lease, the homeowner gets full and exclusive use of the land and the CCLT retains the affordability of the house. In exchange for help in purchasing a house, a Juneberry homebuyer agrees to limit the resale price of the house, keeping the housing affordable for future buyers.

Contact: Steve McDowell, CCLT, (503) 659-1618, ext. 3

Innovative Partnerships: NeighborWorks Umpqua, Roseburg

NeighborWorks Umpqua actively worked to increase the number of trained foreclosure counselors across the state. Their efforts brought \$2,400,000 into Oregon nonprofit organizations, nearly 90 percent of which went to other agencies. The award recognized NeighborWorks Umpqua for its initial foresight and leadership in helping Oregon respond to the challenges of the foreclosure crisis.

Contact: Betty Tamm, NeighborWorks Umpqua, (541) 673-4909

Innovative Resident Services: Bienestar, northwest Oregon

Bienestar is a community development corporation providing affordable housing in Washington and Columbia counties. Their Promotores Program trains 16 of Bienestar’s own residents to act as peer leaders and role models for other residents. Promotores convey messages related to public health topics, illness prevention and well-being, and serve as the eyes and ears of staff to better support families in crisis.

Contact: Gracie Garcia, Bienestar, (503) 693-2937

Preservation of Affordable Housing: Pinnacle Architecture for Crest Butte Apartments, Bend

Built in 1978, Crest Butte Apartments provide government-subsidized rent for low-income residents through the US Department of Agriculture’s Rural Development Agency and the US Department of Urban Development. The 52-unit complex is located in the heart of Bend. Pinnacle Architecture reconceived what was once a poorly maintained and troubled property by creating a new modern design, built to last for decades.

Contact: Doug Alley, Pinnacle Architecture, (541) 388-9897

Director’s Choice Award: Partnership to Create Bud Clark Commons, Portland

Bud Clark Commons is at the heart of Portland’s 10-year Plan to End Homelessness by helping to move towards stability. An innovative partnership between the Portland Housing Bureau, Home Forward, Transition Projects and Multnomah County. Housed in a new, state-of-the-art LEED Platinum building, Bud Clark Commons brings together services and providers, plus short-term and long-term housing.

Contact: Alissa Mahar, Chief Operating Officer of the Portland Housing Bureau (503) 823-2375 or Anita Yap, Deputy Executive Director of Home Forward, (503) 802-8300

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