



# Community Development Network (CDN)

## 2007 Accomplishments

### CDN MEMBERS PRODUCE AND PRESERVE HOUSING

- CDN Member organizations developed or rehabilitated 521 units of affordable rental housing and 63 new affordable homes for sale in 2007 in Multnomah County. Additionally, CDN Member organizations helped over 500 households become first time homeowners and counseled over 3,000 prospective first time homebuyers.
- CDN Member organizations own 6,834 units of affordable rental housing in Multnomah County, with over 60% of the resident households comprised of seniors, people with disabilities and hardworking families earning under 30% Median Family Income.

### STRENGTHENING EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY

- CDN and the statewide Association of Oregon Community Development Organizations voted to pursue a merger. The merged entity will provide a unified voice and more effective programs for community development in local communities and throughout the state.

### ADVOCACY FOR WINNING RESOURCE STRATEGIES

- CDN was a key participant in the Housing Alliance's most significant resource victory in the Oregon Legislature's history--\$26 million for housing for working families, seniors, veterans and people with disabilities. \$16 million will be allocated for new affordable housing and services for people coming out of homelessness. \$8 million will be used for the preservation of affordable housing. \$2 million will restore money taken from the Housing Trust Fund.
- CDN secured a 30% set aside of Portland urban renewal area funding for affordable housing. More than \$27 million per year will be dedicated to housing below 80% MFI, with nearly half of the funds dedicated to households under 30% MFI. \$6 million per year will be dedicated to homeownership with an emphasis on opportunities for people of color.
- Working through AHN!, CDN successfully advocated for nearly \$6 million in new City of Portland resources in 2007, securing the final commitment to meet the AHN! \$30 million Housing Investment Fund goal.
- Working with partners around the Metro region, CDN successfully advocated for \$1 Million Metro Regional Housing Fund.

## **FOCUSING COMMUNITY ATTENTION ON HOUSING SOLUTIONS**

- CDN's Communications Program generated 12 media stories that ran on radio, newspaper, or television, and got 7 letters to the editor published on pending housing policy decisions
- Working with Affordable Housing NOW!, CDN coordinated the AHN! Speakers Bureau, utilizing the values-based, poll-tested housing messages to effectively re-frame public policy discussion and build support for housing among decision makers.

## **SUCCESSFULLY MOBILIZING ADVOCATES**

- Working with the Housing Alliance, CDN helped coordinate industry and community leaders engaging their elected officials with projects tours, helped organize testimony at hearings and public forums and helped mobilize nearly 200 people for Housing Alliance Lobby Day.
- Working with Affordable Housing NOW!, CDN mobilized and coordinated over 250 community members as part of the AHN! 2007 Housing Opportunity Campaign. Community members gave public testimony to commissions and to elected officials, attended hearings, participated in budget forums and public events related to the housing set aside.

## **STRENGTHENING A HEALTHY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INDUSTRY**

- CDN's Property and Asset Management Group completed a "State of The Industry" report on the community development industry's assets. The report identified needed program and policy changes around underwriting and compliance reporting.
- CDN completed a report "What Will it Take to Achieve Permanent Supportive Housing?" detailing barriers and challenges, as well as tools, policies and resources needed for success. Ten presentations of the report were made to a broad range of community leaders, elected officials and other decision makers at the state and local levels.
- Peer support, training and focused input on policy and program design through active working groups help nonprofits run effectively and efficiently in such areas as Property and Asset Management and Resident Services.

## **RECORD TURNOUT TO CELEBRATE CDN MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Over 420 people including elected and government officials, business and community leaders, community developers and low-income people celebrated CDN's success at our Annual Awards Banquet.

## **NETWORKING AND INFORMATION SHARING**

- Monthly CDN forums, an information packed website, and bi-weekly email newsletters keep CDC staff and the community well informed about policy, funding, and other changes in the affordable housing industry. CDN's electronic newsletter has over 1000 subscribers.
- CDN maintained relationships and facilitated regular strategic and problem solving discussions with key industry partners including local, regional and state government bodies, and private sector and nonprofit organizations.