



THE HOME DEPOT FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING BUILT RESPONSIBLY

Awards Recognize Nonprofit Housing Developers That Successfully Combine Affordability With Healthy, Sustainable Design and Construction

ATLANTA, Oct. 17, 2006 – The Home Depot® Foundation today announced that Clackamas Community Land Trust of Milwaukie, Ore., and homeWORD, Inc. of Missoula, Mont., are the winners of the second annual Awards of Excellence for Affordable Housing Built Responsibly in the Homeownership and Rental Housing category respectively. Both organizations will receive a \$75,000 grant to further the goal of producing affordable, efficient and healthy housing for low- to moderate-income families.

The Awards of Excellence program seeks to identify, recognize and showcase the outstanding and innovative work of nonprofit housing development corporations engaged in green building/healthy home construction and rehabilitation. The Home Depot Foundation will present the Awards of Excellence to the winner and runner-up in the Homeownership and Rental Housing categories at the Enterprise Network Conference in Los Angeles on October 26.

The winners were selected from projects submitted by nonprofit housing developers throughout the country. An advisory committee of experts from a variety of affordable housing, community development, building sciences and environmental organizations participated in the selection process. The committee included representatives of organizations such as Building Knowledge; Earth Pledge; Funders Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities; Housing Assistance Council; Housing Vermont; Global Green USA; GreenBlue; The Green Institute; Rural Development, Inc.; Southface; Tellus Institute; THW Design; and U.S. Green Building Council.

Clackamas Community Land Trust completed a 14-unit, duplex-style housing development in North Clackamas County, Ore. The homes were sold to families earning less than 80 percent of area median income. The homes were built on land owned by the Land Trust, thus assuring the homes are affordable for at least 99 years. The developer incorporated optimal-value engineering and advanced framing techniques in the construction of the units. The homes contain ENERGY STAR appliances and were constructed with environmentally friendly building materials. All the homes in the development, called SE Phillips Creek, are Earth Advantage-certified homes and exceed Oregon Energy Code standards for energy efficiency. The national runner-up in the Homeownership category is Mountain Housing Opportunities, Inc. from Asheville, N.C. Mountain Housing received a grant of \$25,000 for the Prospect Terrace development.

homeWORD, Inc. completed a 35-unit development called Orchard Gardens in Missoula, Mont. The development site is 4.6 acres and has five buildings that provide affordable housing to Missoula's lowest-income families. Orchard Gardens contains high energy-efficient mechanical systems, renewable energy systems including photovoltaics, environmentally friendly building materials, and a highly advanced

direct digital control system to monitor the efficiency of each building's operating systems. The entire development utilized optimal value engineering and advanced framing techniques, and one building is a

-2-

structural straw bale community room and barn. The units were designed to provide residents with a healthy indoor environment. The national runner-up in the Rental Housing category is REACH Community Development, Inc. from Portland, Ore. That organization received a grant of \$25,000 for the Station Place Tower development.

"Our primary mission is to encourage the production of healthy and efficient homes that are affordable over the long term for people of low to moderate incomes to own and operate," said Kelly Caffarelli, executive director of The Home Depot Foundation. "We created the Awards of Excellence for the Affordable Housing Built Responsibly program to identify, recognize and showcase the outstanding and innovative work being done by nonprofit housing developers. Our hope is that by sharing information about how the award winners successfully combined affordability with healthy, sustainable measures, we will not only offer insight, but also inspiration to others developing housing for those of modest means."

The Home Depot Foundation was created in 2002 to further the community-building goals of The Home Depot® by providing additional resources to assist nonprofit organizations building affordable, efficient and healthy homes throughout the United States and Canada. The Home Depot Foundation is dedicated to creating healthy, livable communities through the integration of affordable housing built responsibly and the preservation and restoration of community trees. Since its formation, The Home Depot Foundation has granted more than \$25 million to nonprofit and government organizations throughout North America. For more information, visit www.homedepotfoundation.org.

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