



11062 SE 21st Avenue
Milwaukie, OR 97222
www.clackamasclt.org

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Contact: Cara Pattison, 503-659-1618 x4

CCLT to Host Open House, Highlighting Affordable LEED-Platinum Homes for Sale to Low-Income Buyers

Oregon City, OR – Clackamas Community Land Trust will host an open house in April to highlight affordable homes for sale at the nonprofit's recently completed Juneberry Lane development in Oregon City. The open house, which will include tours of the 12 attached, LEED Platinum Certified homes, will take place Sunday, April 10th from 11 am to 2 pm at 107 SE Morton Road in Oregon City, OR.

The two, three, and four bedroom homes at Juneberry Lane are affordably priced from just \$115,000-135,000 and are available for purchase by households with low to moderate incomes who qualify through CCLT's homeownership program. The most recent homeowner at Juneberry Lane is Monica Dahrens, a single mother of two. Dahrens had always wanted to own her own home, but after a divorce and losing her job of 9 years she no longer believed it was possible. "I had the ability to save money," she explained, "but it was never quite enough for a 20% down in the regular market." When Dahrens learned about CCLT, she was surprised to find her dream of home ownership was just within reach. Because the nonprofit community land trust removes the cost of the land from the purchase price of the home, Dahrens was able to purchase a brand new, LEED-Platinum, four bedroom home for little more than the cost of a rental unit.

CCLT's homes are designed to be sustainable, both for the homebuyer and the environment. Juneberry Lane is certified as an Earth-Advantage Community where each home features high levels of insulation, Energy Star appliances, low or no-VOC finishes, as well as private and shared greenspace. There's even a communal "Water Shed" that harvests rainwater for gardening purposes. Dahrens, who moved into her home at the height of winter, explains that her home is so energy efficient she only needs to turn on the heater to 70 degrees for about 30 minutes each day. During Monica's home inspection, she says "the inspector commented on how many extras there were."

Clackamas Community Land Trust works with potential homebuyers earning between 30 and 80% of Area Median income, with the average buyer making just \$32,500 annually. These families, like Monica Dahrens', are often priced out of the traditional market. Dahrens was quite young when her first daughter was born, but she's worked hard every day since. "It was always a goal of mine to do the best I could for my kids."

"It sounds cliché," Dahrens said, "but it's the American dream. Everybody dreams of being able to have something that is their own. But for me, having gone through a divorce and being a single mom, it was more about a sense of accomplishment for me, that I could do it on my own."

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