

# Tools for Preserving Oregon's Affordable Housing



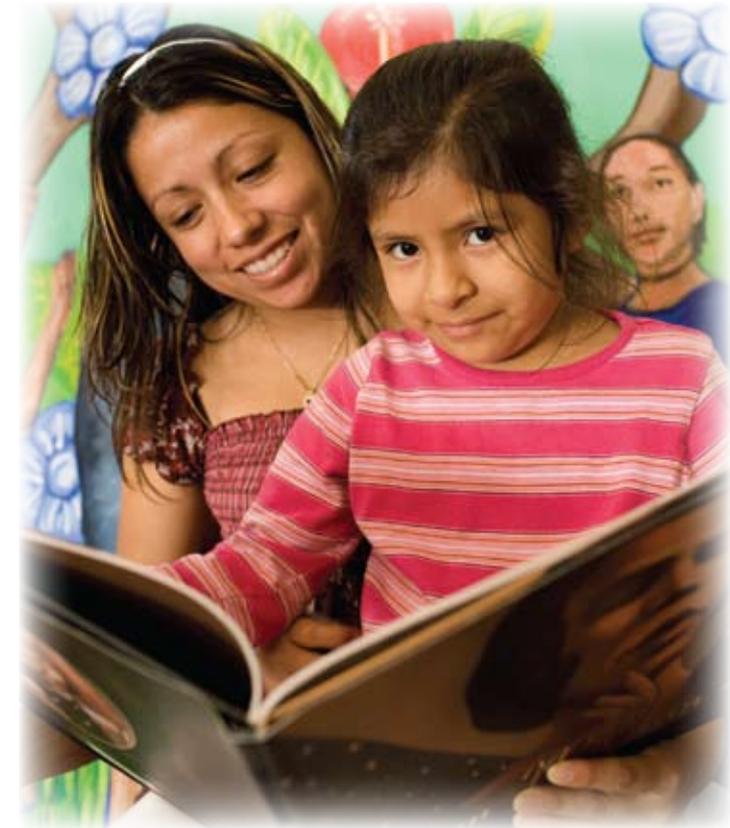
[www.preserveoregonhousing.org](http://www.preserveoregonhousing.org)



# Preserve Oregon Housing

**Everyone Deserves Affordable Housing**

Thousands of Oregon's low-income residents could lose their homes as federal rental assistance contracts expire between now and 2013. Under the leadership of the Oregon Housing and Community Services Department, an unprecedented team of partners have come together to develop and implement strategies that will preserve and improve housing access for Oregon's most vulnerable residents in every corner of the state. These strategies became known as the Oregon Housing Acquisition Project.





## Who We Are

**P**reserve Oregon Housing is guided by a team of housing industry experts from the private, public, nonprofit and philanthropic sectors. The strategies outlined below respond to the threat of expiring federal rental assistance contracts which allow many of Oregon's most vulnerable citizens to live in safe and decent housing. Preserve Oregon Housing employs a collaborative approach to preserve as many as 6,000 federally assisted rental homes for low-income Oregonians.



## Key components of Preserve Oregon Housing include the following:

### Make information available

Through the website [www.preserveoregonhousing.org](http://www.preserveoregonhousing.org), provide a database of "Preservation" properties for easy access by stakeholders and policy makers. Continue to gather information about Oregon's affordable rental properties and identify owners who may opt out of their subsidy contracts to convert their properties to market rate apartments or other uses.

### Streamline processes

Work with government agencies to streamline processes for refinancing or selling "Preservation" properties to new owners. These agencies include Oregon Housing and Community Services Department, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development and the City of Portland Bureau of Housing and Community Development.

### Provide acquisition capital

Establish the Oregon Housing Acquisition Fund to provide quick access to interim financing for the acquisition of Preservation projects and for development of new affordable housing units. The fund is administered by the Network for Oregon Affordable Housing (NOAH).

### Provide technical assistance

Preserve Oregon Housing staff will research and promote best practices for preserving Oregon's affordable housing resources, link interested sellers of Preservation projects with preservation-oriented buyers and provide technical assistance to participants and stakeholders.

### Promote "green" building practices

Provide planning and technical assistance and financial incentives during the renovation of Preservation properties to owners of permanently affordable rental projects who install upgrades to maximize energy efficiency and improve indoor air quality.

## Why We're Here

**G**uided by an expert steering committee, Preserve Oregon Housing has developed sound strategies to respond to a looming crisis which could impact many of Oregon's seniors, disabled citizens and low income families. This collaborative effort to preserve our state's affordable housing resources will unite urban and rural communities to improve affordable housing access statewide.

We're here to support owners of rent-assisted properties who are considering their options under renewal of their subsidy contracts. Our goal is to facilitate the sale of assisted properties to new owners who wish to preserve them. We're here to research best practices and help inform Oregon's citizens and policy makers about the importance of preserving affordable housing. We share tools and provide financing to preserve and create homes for 25,000 low-income Oregonians.



## Preserve Oregon Housing is supported by these organizations:

- Oregon Housing and Community Services Department
- City of Portland Bureau of Housing and Community Development
- Meyer Memorial Trust
- John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
- Collins Foundation
- Oregon Community Foundation
- Enterprise Community Partners
- The Neighborhood Partnership Fund
- Community Alliance of Tenants
- Bob and Tom Walsh
- Network for Oregon Affordable Housing



If you would like to learn more about preserving Oregon's affordable housing resources, visit our website at [www.preserveoregonhousing.org](http://www.preserveoregonhousing.org) or contact us.

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