

CHRONICLE

CCC Breaks Ground on Family Housing in Clackamas County

Central City Concern’s family housing changed Randi’s life when she needed a safe and supportive place to start over with her son, Cole. So it was very fitting that she joined Central City Concern (CCC) housing staff and the Board of Commissioners from Clackamas County on a clear and warm September day as we gathered to mark the inception of the Town Center Greens, a 60-unit apartment building set for completion next fall.

“After treatment, I was blessed with the opportunity to be placed into CCC family housing. The opportunity was a life changer for me and my now 11-year-old son. CCC provided my son and me with a safe, clean and sober environment for us to call home. It was a place for me to learn how to be a parent to my child again and a place for me to build relationships with other parents who were also trying to find their way in life. CCC gave me the support I needed to rebuild my life,” Randi said.

Working with CCC’s employment services during her time in CCC’s housing, Randi had returned to school to pursue a career in social services. Today, she is a Case Manager at Clackamas County’s Centerstone which offers crisis stabilization services. She has been employed with the County for the past three years.



Randi, shown at right with CCC Employment Specialist, Simon Klein, made dramatic strides toward self-sufficiency while she lived in CCC Family Housing. She was a featured speaker at a CCC Employment Graduation in 2013.

Randi, and others in attendance, had the opportunity to review blueprints of the new apartment building as gravel trucks busily crisscrossed the site. The three-story building features two central courtyards with interconnected community spaces designed to help foster interaction among renters. The building boasts 20 one-bedroom units, 32 two-bedroom units and eight three-bedroom apartments.

Clackamas County committed \$2.8 million to the apartment building. General contractor is Walsh Construction Co. Total project cost is \$15.1 million.



Town Center Greens, designed by Scott Edwards Architecture

“CCC gave me the support I needed to rebuild my life.”

**Randi,
former Family
Housing resident**

Clackamas County housing, cont.



(l to r:) Clackamas County Commissioners Paul Savas, Tootie Smith, Chair John Ludlow and Martha Schrader with CCC Executive Director Ed Blackburn.

Central City Concern will have two full-time staff members on site to assist residents with life skills, employment and educational development, recovery, parenting and wellness support. The apartment building is well located near public transportation, public schools, public parks, child care centers and numerous employment opportunities. Also nearby are Clackamas Community College, several Clackamas County Clinics, the Clackamas Town Center and a number of grocery stores.

Perhaps most important to future residents is the affordability of the apartments—rents will range from \$630 to \$825. Additionally, some units will be Section 8, with tenants paying 30% of their monthly income as rent.

“We have long had waiting lists for families needing an affordable place to call home,” said Ed Blackburn. “This building helps us answer that need in Clackamas County, which has seen an increase in homelessness in past years.”



Make Holiday Wishes Come True

Once again, Central City Concern is collecting gifts and gift cards for the 200 children who live in our family housing. Unwrapped toys and clothing will be gladly accepted for our “Adopt a Child” program until December 12th. If you are interested in a personalized giving opportunity, we can pair you with a specific child. For further details and to participate, please contact Donor Services Manager Catharine Hunter at catharine.hunter@ccconcern.org or 503-200-3903

Thank You Clackamas Town Center Greens Funders/Donors:

Clackamas County, Health, Housing & Human Services
U.S. Bancorp Community Development Corporation
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DONOR PROFILE

James & Ashley-Renee Nye

Without support from people like you, CCC would not be able to provide the housing, healthcare, and employment services that help hundreds of people escape homelessness every year. One of the many ways you can support CCC is by making a donation to us through Willamette Week's year-end Give!Guide campaign (www.giveguide.org).

CCC donors James and Ashley-Renee Nye did just that last year. This year, in order to encourage philanthropy among their peers, they have pledged to match every gift made to CCC by a 35-and-younger donor through the Give!Guide—up to \$5,000!

Q. What is it about CCC's mission that calls to you?

A. We knew that homelessness was one of the big issues we wanted to address with our charitable giving, and after looking everything over, CCC seemed like a great fit for what we were trying to accomplish. The fact that CCC provides wraparound services aimed at getting people out of homelessness made us feel really good about deciding to support you.

Q. Do either of you serve on any nonprofit boards or regularly engage in volunteerism?

A. Not as much as we'd like to, especially since having a baby! My wife regularly volunteers for VoiceCatcher, a nonprofit women's collective of writers and artists, and I serve on CCC's Planned Giving Committee. I've also volunteered on the Finance Committee of the Rose City Rollers, Portland's own roller derby league.

Q. Why do you suppose Give!Guide focuses on younger donors?

A. It's definitely important to start the donating habit early. Many people think that under-35s don't donate to charity. But according to a 2012 survey commissioned by the Millennial Impact Project, about 75% of people between the ages of 20 and 35 gave to charity in the previous year. As long as Give!Guide can get into young people's hands, and make a case for helping the charities that make Portland a better place to live, I think we can really make a difference.

Q. What would you say to a friend about why they should donate to CCC?

A. There's really no other local organization that does what CCC does. Portland is a great city, and everyone deserves to have a chance at helping it become even greater. CCC is helping provide that chance.

If you'd like to make a gift to CCC through the Give!Guide, please visit www.giveguide.org

For other opportunities to give to CCC, please visit www.cconcern.org/donate

How your gift to Central City Concern changes lives:

- > **\$25** covers a week's worth of bus passes to get to and from work before the first paycheck arrives
- > **\$152** covers the fees for taking the GED test
- > **\$250** covers the cost of clothing for a job interview
- > **\$1,000** allows one person to enroll in our Community Volunteer Corps



Ashley-Renee Nye runs a home business doing graphic design, Jame Nye is an accountant and Sam is a happy baby!



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HOMES HEALTH JOBS

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Central City Concern Opens New Healthcare Site

Since 2003, Central City Concern has been a Federally Qualified Health Center, entrusted to serve the healthcare needs of our community's most vulnerable citizens. We are one of 9,000 such health centers in the country that provides care to upwards of 23 million people yearly.

The profound impact of these centers is celebrated every August during National Health Center Week. CCC was doubly fortunate this year to simultaneously celebrate the addition of a new health center—the Bud Clark Clinic in Portland.

Previously called the Bud Clark Skin Care Clinic, the drop-in clinic operation was launched in March 2014 by the Multnomah County Health Department with funding from the Health Commons grant through Health Share of Oregon. Since its inception, it has provided care for approximately 800 individuals.

The Clinic is located inside the Bud Clark Commons, a Home Forward building with 130 studio homes serving residents who have been experiencing homelessness.

On August 12, 2015, dozens of CCC's Old Town Clinic staff, Congressman Earl Blumenauer, Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury and CCC Executive Director Ed Blackburn gathered to announce the new partnership that will operate the Clinic.

Ed Blackburn said, "Increasing access is a key component of community health centers and thanks to the partnerships we have with Multnomah County, Home Forward and Transition Projects, we are making great strides on that today. People who have used and relied upon this Clinic for care won't notice many changes. However, if they are lacking a primary care provider, we'll be able to provide them with fast-track access to our Old Town Clinic where we can help them address the full breadth of their health needs from the management of chronic health conditions to prescriptions and connections to addiction recovery services."

Learn more about the Bud Clark Clinic on our website, ccconcern.org

Bud Clark Clinic provides short-term treatment for injuries, new illnesses, and urgent medical needs, post-surgery care including wound care, and assistance with medication refills for problems like diabetes and hypertension.

Photo by Coalition of Community Health Clinics

