



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Central City Concern and Bikes for Humanity PDX Announce Grand Opening of Chain Reaction Bike Co-op

March 4th, 2015

Portland, OR

Central City Concern (CCC) and Bikes for Humanity PDX (B4HPDX) announce the grand opening of Chain Reaction Bike Co-op this Friday, March 6th at 1pm.

This celebration marks the culmination of a partnership between CCC and B4HPDX that began more than a year ago. CCC provides housing, healthcare, employment and positive relationships for individuals working to transform their lives. CCC clients can now help refurbish their own granted bicycles and receive free bike mechanic training. The program fulfills B4HPDX's objective of facilitating availability of bikes, education, and tools to anyone regardless of economic status.

CCC has provided the workshop space in the Estate Building at 225 NW Couch St., Portland, while B4HPDX will provide management of programming following a cooperative model entrusting operations to volunteers and clients.

"CCC is thrilled to partner with B4HPDX on this project that not only brings transferable skills to our clients but also provides them with viable transportation that supports a more self-sufficient lifestyle," said Ed Blackburn, CCC Executive Director.

Initial plans will focus on refurbishment and granting in the space, followed by adding repair and maintenance sessions to sustain grantees' bike commuting needs. B4HPDX operates extensively on volunteer in-kind participation, and runs a free year-round mechanics training program, instructed by volunteers with professional skills.

"Chain Reaction is not just a sustainable solution for underutilized bicycles. It also creates a positive environment for transition to independence. By empowering Central City Concern's clients with bicycle repair skills, they are able to bring these bikes back to a purpose of everyday use, just as they build and stabilize their own futures," explains B4HPDX board member Scott



Anselmo. "This is the first in a network of B4HPDX-sponsored external bike co-ops supporting underserved populations. Our model is easily replicated and we hope other communities will see how a bike co-op can transform their own neighborhoods."

For more information on this press release, contact b4hpdx@gmail.com or Kathy.Pape@ccconcern.org

Bikes for Humanity PDX

3354 SE Powell Blvd.
Portland, OR 97202
(503) 957-6672
b4hpdx@gmail.com
www.b4hpdx.org

CENTRAL CITY CONCERN ADMINISTRATION

232 NW 6th Ave
Portland, OR 97209
(503) 294-1681 Phone
(503) 294-4321 Fax
cccadmin@ccconcern.org
www.centralcityconcern.org