



November 28, 2018 – for immediate release

Contact Susan Wickstrom, 971-352-8842, [susan.wickstrom@cccconcern.org](mailto:susan.wickstrom@cccconcern.org)

### **Affordable housing for 153 households: Hazel Heights apartments**

PORTLAND, OR: People are coming together to solve Portland’s housing crisis. Central City Concern (CCC), Portland’s non-profit serving people impacted by homelessness, poverty and addictions since 1979, opened Hazel Heights, the first of three buildings in the Housing is Health initiative—a pioneering commitment from local hospitals and health systems in supportive, affordable housing. A resident officially cut the ribbon on Tuesday, Nov. 27, while local dignitaries looked on.

Rachel Solotaroff, MD, CCC’s president and CEO, welcomed more than 100 attendees to the grand opening celebration in Hazel Heights’ courtyard. Mayor Ted Wheeler and County Commissioner Jessica Vega Pederson spoke, as well as David Russell from Adventist Health Oregon, Rilla Delorier from Umpqua Bank, Ann Melone from US Bank, and Margaret Salazar, director of Oregon Housing and Community Services.

Before he cut the ceremonial ribbon, formerly homeless resident Jerrod Murray, a single dad with three kids, said, “I am truly grateful that my kids don’t have to go through what I went through.” He expressed his gratitude that several Native American families will live in the community by singing an honor song in his native language, Ojibwa.

Hazel Heights will welcome people exiting transitional housing programs who have gained employment and seek a permanent home, but still may have barriers to housing. The two four-story buildings contain 153 homes total: 92 one-bedroom and 61 two-bedroom apartments. Rents will range from \$412–\$995 per month, depending on Median Family Income.

“These homes are important for supporting employed people with affordable housing. When people are housed, they have a better chance for a healthy future,” said Solotaroff.

Hazel Heights’ major contributors include the Housing is Health coalition of six health organizations: Adventist Health Portland, CareOregon, Kaiser Permanente Northwest, Legacy Health, OHSU and Providence Health & Services Oregon. Other major funders are Umpqua Bank, Portland Housing Bureau, US Bank Community Development Corporation, Oregon Housing and Community Services, Federal Home Loan Bank and PGE.

The total cost for the project was \$26.8M. The design and development team is Central City Concern, the architect is Ankrom Moisan and the builder is Team Construction. The other two buildings in the Housing is Health collaborative, Charlotte B. Rutherford Place and Blackburn Center, will open in Dec. ’18 and July ’19 respectively.



Hazel Heights, an affordable housing complex on SE Stark St. at 126<sup>th</sup> Ave., is home to 153 households.



Jerrod Murray, a Hazel Heights single father with three children, cuts the ceremonial ribbon to officially open the buildings on Nov. 27, 2018.