



NeighborImpact

Critical Needs. Diverse Services. Empowering Change.

PRESS RELEASE

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NeighborImpact's Weatherization Program to Install Solar Project

November 16, 2011 Bend, Or. – NeighborImpact, in partnership with Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) and the Energy Trust of Oregon, will be installing a 134,000 watt solar panel system on nine buildings at the Healy Heights apartment complex in Bend, Oregon. Financial support for this project originated from a US Department of Energy (DOE) grant through the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act. Besides NeighborImpact only four other community action agencies throughout Oregon received this grant.

"This grant was a great opportunity to bring a large scale solar project to Central Oregon," commented Laura Fritz, Housing Center Director at NeighborImpact. "Just as energy use will increase with the onset of colder weather this program will enable Healy Heights residents to save money on their electric bills."

NeighborImpact contracted with E2 Solar from Bend to complete work on this project. The winner of a statewide competitive bid process, E2 Solar has completed local projects at Miller Elementary School and the Redmond Airport. This contract will provide 4 new jobs for the company and support the local economy.

This project is also supported by Energy Trust of Oregon, an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to helping utility customers benefit from saving energy and tapping renewable resources. Their services, cash incentives and energy solutions have helped participating customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power, NW Natural and Cascade Natural Gas save nearly \$800 million on energy bills. Learn more at www.energytrust.org or call 1-866-368-7878.

NeighborImpact plans to replicate this process in Madras by adding solar panels to a 24 unit housing complex.

About Oregon Housing and Community Service (OHCS): OHCS is Oregon's housing finance agency, providing financial and program support to create and preserve opportunities for quality, affordable housing for Oregonians of lower and moderate income. The current agency was created in 1991, and creates a continuum of programs that assist and empower lower-income individuals and families in their efforts to become self-reliant. For more information about OHCS please go to www.ohcs.oregon.gov.

About NeighborImpact: Since 1985, NeighborImpact has been a leader in developing solutions and bringing resources to Crook, Jefferson and Deschutes County. It offers a diversity of services meeting basic human needs for food and shelter, while enriching people's lives by providing access to increased education, skills, and hope for the future. NeighborImpact is a private nonprofit organization that receives federal, state and local funding; foundation grants; and donations from individuals and businesses in our community. To learn more about NeighborImpact please visit www.neighborimpact.org.

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