Neighborhood Partnerships (NP) enhances the lives of thousands of Oregonians each year across the state through high profile collaborations, initiatives and programs. Strong management, consistent evaluation, and a willingness to drive systems innovations and policy advances helps us fulfill our core mission: to create opportunity for Oregonians with low incomes.

Our work is inspired by a vision of an Oregon whose beauty and riches combine to offer opportunity and a bright future to all who live here. Oregon has a history of ingenuity, innovation, and independence. The beauty and resources of our state have inspired and nurtured us for generations. We have the tools to create a better future. If we harness our spirit and our energy, and invest in people, we can create a better future for the next generation. We can ensure that every person, every family, and every community in Oregon can prosper.

The work of Neighborhood Partnerships—shepherding resources, policy development, advocacy, and communications—has a lasting impact on our state.

**2012-2013 Milestones**

**Pathways to Prosperity**

We all have a stake in an Oregon where everyone has access to opportunity and communities can prosper. Together, we can build and sustain the next generation’s middle class and create pathways to prosperity and opportunity.

The Oregon IDA Initiative is a proven approach which provides access to financial education and matching funds to help Oregonians achieve their dream of owning a home, starting a micro-enterprise, or continuing their education. This successful collaborative effort, which NP manages, provides the skills and funds to help rebuild Oregon’s middle class, and, in the process, rebuild Oregon. Over the past two years we have continued to reach even deeper into Oregon, and expand into additional rural communities and underserved communities, including communities of color, individuals returning to the community after incarceration, and families experiencing barriers to stability.

Milestones in 2012–2013:

- In 2012, the Oregon IDA Initiative received $10 million in private contributions.
- As of June 2013, thanks to the Oregon IDA Initiative, 1090 Oregonians with low incomes have purchased or renovated a home, 1103 have started or expanded a business, and 645 have pursued an education to expand their skills.
- The Oregon IDA Initiative has lasting results. According to an independent evaluation by Portland State University, our graduates meet their savings goals and improve their long-term financial prospects by changing savings and budgeting habits. Read the evaluation at http://oregonidainitiative.org/impact-policy.

**Access to Opportunity**

Access to safe, decent, and affordable housing in all Oregon communities has been a central goal since NP’s inception. We know that Oregonians believe that hardworking people should not have to choose between paying the rent and buying food and medicine, and we know that too many Oregonians face that choice every day.

NP continues to provide policy leadership and bring an array of partners together to collaborate on policy and advocacy around housing needs. We convene and coordinate the work of the Housing Alliance, a statewide coalition which advocates for increasing housing opportunity in all corners of the state.

Milestones in 2012–2013:

- Together, the Housing Alliance advanced the 2013 Housing Opportunity Agenda to address needs that might otherwise limit opportunity in our communities. Highlights of our progress include passage of several significant bills: A new, ongoing revenue source to create housing for our veterans; a bill to make the federal Section 8 rent subsidy program more effective; expanded protections for Oregonians facing foreclosure; and allocation of resources for preservation of housing now serving our neighbors with very low incomes.
- Together, the Housing Alliance anticipates broad and exciting new conversations in the 2014 and 2015 legislative
sessions about how we create opportunity across Oregon. www.oregonhousingalliance.org.

NP continues to play a role in the nationally recognized Bridges to Housing program, which serves families experiencing homelessness in the Portland metro area. Bridges to Housing provides families with multiple barriers to stability with housing and intensive services in an effort to move families out of crisis. Evaluation reports and more information are at www.bridgestohousing.org.

Communicating Effectively to Create Lasting Change

NP has long understood the importance of speaking about the values that shape and inform our efforts and we have proven the power of adapting the way we talk about our work and our communities. We want to build a vision of Oregon which offers its diversity of residents opportunities to thrive and pathways out of poverty and disenfranchisement.

Since 2010, we have convened a yearly Advocates College to train leaders and advocates from across the state in the theory, science and application of strategic communications. We have graduated three cohorts of advocates, developed tools and capacity, and supported key advocacy efforts at the local and state level. In addition, we have convened dozens of shorter training opportunities across the state. We have engaged a broad cohort of both established and emerging leaders in our effort. Our work empowers them to advocate effectively for structural and systemic change and nurtures new, strategic linkages between advocacy organizations.

2012-2013 proved to be a productive year for Neighborhood Partnerships, and we continue to look ahead to a new set of challenges and opportunities. We will continue to build consensus across the state on approaches and solutions to help move Oregon communities and Oregonians with little access to opportunity towards stability and prosperity. We hope you’ll join us.

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Please see our website for more information, including the annual audit and Form 990.