

For Immediate Release

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Grand Opening Set for 15-Unit Permanent Supportive Housing Apartment Community in SE Portland

Douglas Fir Apartments will provide housing and hope for veterans, those facing extraordinary mental health challenges

- New Narrative, an integrative mental health organization in Oregon, opens 15 units of permanent supportive housing in SE Portland for individuals experiencing mental health challenges.
- This was a joint effort between New Narrative, <u>Multnomah County Joint Office of Homeless Services</u>
 (<u>JOHS</u>), <u>CareOregon</u>, and <u>Home Forward</u> to meet the growing mental health care and housing needs of adults in Oregon with a full continuum of mental health services.
- The event will be held at 11 AM on Thursday, April 6 at the Douglas Fir Apartments location at 6485 SE 128th Ave, Portland, OR. Speakers will include government officials and partners involved in making this vision a reality.

Portland, OR —New Narrative is inviting the public to join in celebrating the opening of Douglas Fir Apartments, a new 15-unit permanent supportive housing venture to provide housing and wraparound mental health resources for veterans and vulnerable populations experiencing mental health challenges. This will include individuals referred from the Native American Rehabilitation Association (NARA) and those in New Narrative's Intensive Case Management Program. Leasing will begin on April 1.

This property is one of a growing inventory for New Narrative, which runs Horizon Property Management, LLC—an in-house property management operation to maximize low-barrier stable housing opportunities for participants. Scott Edwards Architecture was the architect for Douglas Fir Apartments, which features a mix of studios and one-bedroom units, onsite laundry facilities, and a staff office and group room area for tenants and staff members to utilize together. O'Neill Construction led construction of the units. The Housing Development Center also played a key role in driving this project forward.

The vision for Douglas Fir Apartments is a result of the tremendous need for long term, stable, housing for the most vulnerable in our community. "We recognize that housing is an ever-present need at the forefront of addressing mental health. Many of the people we will be serving in this project have experienced severe trauma and mental health challenges. Having access to this safe and supportive housing will greatly improve their chances of mental health recovery and integration back into the community," said New Narrative CEO Julie Ibrahim. New Narrative's model of care works to address the whole person in its approach to mental health treatment, tailoring plans to the individual's needs and wellness goals.

Allie Sheets, New Narrative's Vice President of Clinical Services adds, "This is a dream come true for referrals; we know that these individuals will be able to quickly transition to receive the care they need to build a stable rental history and confidence in a future of independent living."

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New Narrative is a non-profit agency established in 1977 which provides mental health treatment services, housing programs, and peer support and mentoring services to adults with persistent and severe mental illness. Over 52% of its funding comes from Medicaid and the remainder through private philanthropic sources.

Visit: www.NewNarrativepdx.org