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New Path Community Housing in Boise Honored with Affordable Housing Award From National Coalition

26th Annual Charles L. Edson Tax Credit Excellence Award recognizes best in affordable housing

Washington, D.C. – The Affordable Housing Tax Credit Coalition (AHTCC) today announced that New Path Community Housing in Boise is a 2020 recipient of the Charles L. Edson Tax Credit Excellence Award in the Small Metropolitan category, recognizing affordable housing developments and organizations that have demonstrated especially impactful use of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit).

Announced each year from the nation’s capital, the awards honor Housing Credit developments that are strengthening communities, improving residents’ opportunity and boosting economies in urban, suburban and rural areas across the country. The awards come at a time when the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic impact have intensified the need for affordable housing, compounding the challenge facing at-risk families and individuals already struggling to pay rent.

“In Idaho, we have a long history of looking out for our neighbors, and New Path Community Housing in Boise is a shining example of that,” said U.S. Representative Mike Simpson (R-Idaho, 02). “Made possible by Pacific West Communities, Northwest Integrity Housing, and numerous community, city, and state groups, New Path is leading the way by helping some of our most vulnerable citizens – those who are chronically homeless. And today they’ve won a prestigious award of excellence, given to only the best affordable housing developments in the nation. I congratulate them for their work and for their dedication to the people of Idaho.”

“The Housing Credit continues to spur development of affordable homes that go above and beyond for the families they serve,” said AHTCC Executive Director Emily Cadik. “The Edson Award winners this year demonstrate how innovative and high-quality affordable housing can transform communities and help meet the need for education, child care, health care and other services vital to a community’s support system for at-risk families and individuals.”

New Path Community Housing, developed by Pacific West Communities, Inc. and Northwest Integrity Housing Co., is Idaho's first Housing First development, providing 40 permanent supportive housing units and wrap-around social and health services for chronically homeless individuals. New Path was made possible through a collaboration of nearly two dozen organizations, including the Idaho Housing and Finance Association, Boise City/Ada County Housing Authority, City of Boise, Ada County, businesses, nonprofits, and healthcare providers. Nearly \$6 million in equity was provided by American Express National Bank and syndicated by The Richman Group through the Housing Credit. New Path is located near a grocery store, health care facility, public transportation, a nonprofit that works with low-income residents and the city’s 25-mile pedestrian Green Belt.

Since 1986, the Housing Credit has financed more than three million homes for low-income households, including veterans, senior citizens, individuals with disabilities, essential workers, and families with children. Through public-private partnerships, the Housing Credit offers a proven track record of financing safe, decent affordable homes in communities where they are needed most.

“The Edson awardees highlight the creative and innovative solutions that exist to combat the nation’s lack of affordable housing,” said AHTCC President and WNC, Inc. Executive Vice President Michael Gaber. “As the impact of COVID-19 continues to create hardships for a growing number of families and working people across the country, now more than ever we need effective tools like the Housing Credit to provide stable, affordable homes.”

For more information about the 2020 Edson Awards, please visit taxcreditcoalition.org/edson-awards/.

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About the Affordable Housing Tax Credit Coalition

Founded in 1988, AHTCC is a trade organization of housing professionals who advocate for affordable rental housing financed using the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit). AHTCC's for-profit and non-profit members—including syndicators, investors, lenders, developers, legal and accounting professionals and state allocating agencies—seek to preserve, expand and improve the Housing Credit and complementary programs through legislative outreach and education.