



Changing lives
Building communities
Creating opportunities

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**Central City Concern and The Water Team
Receive National Honor for Water Independence Work**

Portland, Oregon - Central City Concern, and other members of The Water Team - SERA Architects, Interface Engineering, and Gerding Edlen Development - won a prestigious award for the *Achieving Water Independence in Buildings* project from the **Sustainable Buildings Industries Council**. The award was made in Washington DC on February 25th. Out of 200 applicants, 4 awards were given (1 overall award and 2 citations in the ‘built’ category, and 1 citation in the ‘initiative’ category). The *Achieving Water Independence in Buildings* received the only award in the ‘initiative’ category.

The Water Team, collaborated with more than 100 people from regulatory agencies, from within the building industry, and from advocacy and special interest groups, to tackle conservation, public health and technological considerations around water systems and the regulatory steps required to achieve a water-independent building in Oregon.

The Team published “Achieving Water Independence in Buildings” (available on CCC’s website) which highlights water reuse systems and the process that contributed to changes in Oregon state law that now allows the use of rainwater and greywater in residential or commercial buildings without a special permit.

Central City Concern owns/manages 23 buildings with more than 1,400 units of affordable housing. It has recently launched a major effort to increase the energy efficiency of all its buildings. CCC provides pathways to self-sufficiency through active intervention in poverty



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and homelessness. The agency provides health, recovery and employment services to more than 13,000 individuals in the Portland metro area every year.