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**Traci Manning Graduates from NeighborWorks®
Achieving Excellence in Community Development Program**

Portland, OR – Today, Traci Manning, Chief Operating Officer of Central City Concern graduated from the **NeighborWorks® Achieving Excellence in Community Development program** offered in association with Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government. Manning was one of 49 national leaders to graduate with this Achieving Excellence class. The graduation was held in New Orleans, La., at the NeighborWorks® Training Institute.

“This program was an exceptional opportunity for Central City Concern to continue with leading edge housing work and we have been honored to be involved,” Manning said.

Achieving Excellence is an 18-month educational program for seasoned executive directors and senior level staff in community organizations that have a focus on affordable housing, community revitalization or community economic development. Through this program, Manning specifically addressed a challenge facing CCC, identifying and implementing solutions that impacts how the organization does business while fostering lasting community change.

According to NeighborWorks® America CEO Ken Wade, only the most experienced and sophisticated executive directors and senior level staff participate in this program. “Traci’s successful completion of the Achieving Excellence program is a testament to her exceptional skills and long-term commitment to improving our nation’s communities and the lives of their residents,” said Wade. The only comprehensive, intensive training of its kind, Achieving Excellence included three formal sessions at Harvard University’s Kennedy School of



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Government, as well as executive coaching, intensive peer learning and guidance from Douglas K. Smith, a principal designer of the program and renowned expert on performance, learning, innovation and change.

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

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See attached for more information on **NeighborWorks® America**



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About NeighborWorks® America

NeighborWorks® America creates opportunities for people to improve their lives and strengthen their communities by providing access to homeownership and to safe and affordable rental housing. Since 1991, we have assisted nearly 1.2 million low- to moderate-income families with their housing needs. Much of our success is achieved through our support of the NeighborWorks network — more than 230 community development organizations working in more than 4,400 urban, suburban and rural communities in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In the last five years, NeighborWorks organizations have generated more than \$15 billion in reinvestment in these communities. NeighborWorks America is the nation's leading trainer of community development and affordable housing professionals.

Independent evaluations have shown that in just the first two classes alone, Achieving Excellence graduates have collectively achieved the following:

- Total clients served increased by 146% collectively;
- More than \$12.3 million in new income generated by 23 organizations;
- Average total assets per organization increased by 23%, while the average increase attributed directly to Achieving Excellence was \$6,860,507 per organization with \$96,047,109 in aggregate;
- Affordable housing units developed and managed increased 32% and 22%, respectively;
- Approximately 2,500 new affordable rental homes developed, managed or acquired by 18 organizations;
- 89,100 square feet new commercial space created by 7 organizations.