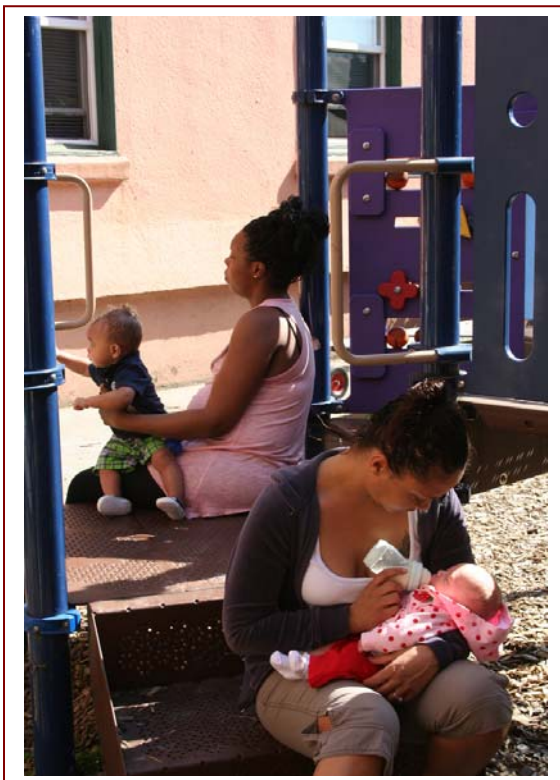


PROJECT NETWORK

Rebuilding Community One Family at a Time

Quick Facts

- LifeWorks NW, in partnership with Home Forward (formerly Housing Authority of Portland) and Gerding Edlen, seeks to develop a new facility that supports best practices and enhances health outcomes in providing residential drug and alcohol treatment to African American women and their children in the NE Portland community.
- The new facility will be built alongside new permanent supportive housing (PSH). The treatment facility will include 36 beds in 2 and 3 bedroom units to be owned and operated by LifeWorks NW. The PSH units, anticipated to include 32 one-, two-, three-bedroom apartments, will be owned and operated by Home Forward and supported with public housing operating subsidy.
- A new location has been identified in NE Portland in order to continue to serve as a hub of recovery for African American women and their children in a culturally responsive environment.
- The preliminary budget for both the new treatment facility and the PSH units is estimated at \$17.9 million. Sources of development funding under consideration include: Low Income Housing Tax Credits, New Market Tax Credits, Home Forward's public housing preservation initiative funds, commercial debt and potential City of Portland funds.



Who does PROJECT NETWORK serve?

More than 75 women, primarily pregnant or parenting African American women ages 18 and older, receive residential drug and alcohol treatment each year. Many live with at least one infant or young child (or multiple children) up to 11 years old. Most women in treatment have made two or more previous substance abuse treatment attempts and are involved in both the child welfare and criminal justice systems. The average woman stays for six months while in treatment with the goal of a transition to permanent supportive housing in the community when available.

"I feel that Project Network offers me a way to change my life. I like that it works with women and children no matter what race or color. It only asks that I make the effort to become clean and sober – one day at a time. It does ask me to make a commitment to myself, to my children, to my family and to my community, to keep myself and my family together, my children going to school and to become a good citizen in this community." A Project Network Client

Why is this redevelopment important now?

- **A new site is needed for the treatment facility.** The existing residential treatment facility was built in 1928 as an apartment building. In 2007, three years after LifeWorks NW took over the program, the board requested a comprehensive structural review of the facility and determined it could not easily be retrofitted to accommodate an ever growing demand for services and the treatment space required to meet this critical need.
- **Additional housing choices are needed.** Permanent supportive housing, especially housing that is drug and alcohol-free, is in extremely short supply. Finding safe and affordable housing is the greatest barrier to success upon leaving treatment. With this project, Home Forward will establish its first "dry" housing. The housing will support Home Forward's public housing preservation initiative by providing quality affordable housing that replaces former public housing units with new larger bedroom sizes to support lower income households.



What types of services will be included?

The treatment facility will include on-site affordable childcare, a playground, fitness room, computer library and community spaces, therapy rooms, and offices.

On-going resident services for LifeWorks NW clients living in Home Forward housing will include mentoring, group support, and case management. Using a single team to design and construct the two facilities into a single complex not only ensures design compatibility but also helps leverage public and private resources in the most cost efficient manner possible.

With availability of permanent, safe, alcohol and drug free housing, households recovering from alcohol and drug addiction can maintain the gains they have made in treatment, keep their children out of foster care, attain meaningful employment and continue the important work of rebuilding their families.

For more information, please contact: Betty A. Krejci, Director of Development, LifeWorks NW at 503.617.3821 or bettyk@lifeworksnw.org or Pamela Kambur, Community Relations Manager, Home Forward at 503.802.8508 or Pamela.Kambur@homeforward.org

