



CITY OF
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PORTLAND HOUSING BUREAU

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MEDIA RELEASE

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CITY HOSTS 2010 HOME OWNERSHIP WORKSHOPS

This month the Portland Housing Bureau (PHB) is hosting the first of 11 free homebuyer workshops in 2010. The “Home Ownership Workshop” will introduce attendees to the full array of City funded first-time homebuyer programs and resources that are available in Portland to help people purchase a home of their own. The free workshops will teach attendees how to access local:

- Homebuyer education and counseling services
- Homebuyer tax credit programs
- Down payment assistance loans
- Homes for sale from non-profit and for-profit partners
- Home loan programs

The workshops are designed to help income-eligible households overcome the financial obstacles they may face when buying their first home. The programs and partners featured in the workshop will help attendees increase their purchasing power, reduce the amount of cash they need to close, and lower their monthly payments to ensure they are affordable.

“Home ownership remains a cornerstone of the American Dream. Portlanders want to become homeowners, and the City supports these goals. These workshops showcase our community resources available to put home ownership within their reach,” stated Commissioner Nick Fish.

The City’s home ownership policy goals include increasing the number of new homebuyers from communities of color because of the significant minority home ownership gaps that exist. The Home Ownership Workshops will help people of color achieve home ownership within the City of Portland. According to the 2006 American Community Survey conducted by the US Census, 68% of Non-Hispanic Whites in the City of Portland own their own home, while 39% or less of African Americans, Hispanics,

Home Ownership Workshops

Page 2

Native Americans and some Asian groups are homeowners. These double digit differences are of great concern to the City. This workshop will inform and educate attendees of all the resources and tools available to help people of color and first-time homebuyers in general.

The 2010 workshop series will be held in a variety of locations throughout Portland. The locations and schedule of classes are as follows:

- **Jan. 21, 2010** – Portland Housing Bureau, 421 SW 6th Avenue Ste 500, 6 - 7:30 PM
- **Feb. 18, 2010** – Kaiser Town Hall, 3704 N Interstate, 6 - 7:30 PM
- **March 18, 2010** – Lents Baptist Church, 5921 SE 88th, 6 - 7:30 PM
- **April 22, 2010** – Portland Housing Bureau, 421 SW 6th Avenue Ste 500, 6 - 7:30 PM
- **May 20, 2010** – Kaiser Town Hall, 3704 N Interstate, 6 - 7:30 PM
- **June 17, 2010** – Lents Baptist Church, 5921 SE 88th, 6 - 7:30 PM
- **July 22, 2010** – Portland Housing Bureau, 421 SW 6th Avenue Ste 500, 6 - 7:30 PM
- **August 19, 2010** – Kaiser Town Hall, 3704 N Interstate, 6 - 7:30 PM
- **Sept. 16, 2010** – Lents Baptist Church, 5921 SE 88th, 6 - 7:30 PM
- **Oct. 21, 2010** – Portland Housing Bureau, 421 SW 6th Avenue Ste 500, 6 - 7:30 PM
- **Nov. 18, 2010** – Kaiser Town Hall, 3704 N Interstate, 6 - 7:30 PM

There is no charge for the class but, advanced registration is required. Register on-line at www.pdc.us/nhp. PHB staff are willing to conduct additional classes for any interested community groups who would like to schedule workshops at other locations in the community. For more information about either the workshop or programs please call 503-823-3400. PHB is an Equal Opportunity Lender. The Portland Housing Bureau's mission is to "make Portland a more livable city for all by bringing low-income people and community resources together." For more information about the visit PHB's web site at www.portlandonline.com/phb

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