

NEW UNITS OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING NOW OPEN IN SPOKANE

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PRESS RELEASE

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Spokane, WA – On Thursday, July 30th at 10:00 am, Spokane Urban Ministries (SUM) will dedicate 47 new units of affordable housing in West Central Spokane. The project, Walnut Corners, is the first project launched by SUM.

Funding for Walnut Corners project included the Washington State Housing Finance Commission Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program, the Washington State Department of Community Trade & Economic Development Housing Trust Fund, the City of Spokane, Spokane County, Avista as well as funds from agency members of Spokane Urban Ministries. The development team includes Zeck Butler Architects, Leone & Keeble General Contractors and Common Ground which provided development consulting services.

The project is one of the first to access federal stimulus funding. According to SUM Board President, James Kashork, “The economic climate in the last year has made the financing of Walnut Corners an especially difficult challenge. Throughout these challenges, SUM remains committed to its mission of providing affordable housing and support services. We are pleased that we can finally share Walnut Corners with the entire Spokane community.”

Walnut Corners units are now available to serve individuals and families. The project consists of a mixture of one, two and three bedroom units. The project will provide on-site property management and support service offices. Applicants interested in living at Walnut Corners may call 509-327-2133, or stop by the property management office located at 1423 West Broadway.

A portion of the project is commercial space. The space, approximately 1600 sq. ft. has been leased to All Saints Lutheran Church which will operate, “The Commons”. Included in the commons will be space for the Lutheran Book Parlor, Indaba Coffee and Katie’s Table. The commercial space is currently being built out and is expected to open by the end of August, 2009.

SUM is dedicated to providing safe, affordable housing and support services that nurture health and wholeness for economically and socially vulnerable individuals and families. SUM was founded in 2007 by Salem Lutheran Church, Emmanuel Lutheran and St. Paul Lutheran (which have since merged into All Saints Lutheran Church), Grace Lutheran Church, and Salem Arms, a non-profit housing provider for people with special needs. Each of the churches are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and SUM is a Social Ministry Organization of the ELCA.

More information on the Spokane Urban Ministries website— www.spokaneurbanministries.org

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