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October 1, 2012

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## **Oregon Realtors Raise Money for Affordable Housing**

**Salem, Oregon** – Members of the Oregon Association of Realtors (OAR) and other industry attendees raised \$40,000 this month for the charitable HOME Foundation which helps fund affordable housing for Oregonians.

Realtors gathered together and raised the money at the fifth annual “Taste of Portland” on September 13, 2012 at the Oregon Golf Club in West Linn. The Vegas-themed event was well attended by a variety of industry professionals and featured cuisine from restaurants and caterers around the city. While guests were sampling tasty treats, they also participated in a silent auction, followed by an oral auction.

The HOME Foundation is a non-profit corporation providing financial resources to create, expand, and encourage home ownership opportunities for Oregonians at or below local median income. It was created in 2004 by a group of concerned Realtors who were aware of the increasing need for affordable housing.

Since its inception, the Foundation has given nearly \$430,000 in grants to make the American Dream of home ownership a reality. Past grant recipients include local chapters of Habitat for Humanity, Clackamas Community Land Trust, African American Alliance for Home Ownership, Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives, Inc., Umpqua Coastal Housing Center, Corvallis Neighborhood Housing Services and Homes for Our Troops.

Grants utilizing the funds raised in 2012 will be awarded by the end of the calendar year to non-profits around the state nominated by local REALTOR® Boards.

Photos of the event are available at the OAR offices.

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*The Oregon Association of REALTORS® was established in 1932 to organize the real estate profession in Oregon. Today, the Association is a force for education and a business and legislative advocate for free enterprise and private property rights in Oregon.*