



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 25, 2013

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**PORLAND RESCUE MISSION RECEIVES \$188,000 GRANT,
NEW SERVICES FOR HOMELESS WOMEN
New Program Connecting Homeless Women to Needed Services**

PORLAND, Ore. – Today, Portland Rescue Mission received a grant of \$188,000 awarded by the M.J Murdock Charitable Trust to open a women's dayroom and start Connect, a new short-term residential program to help vulnerable women transition out of homelessness.

"The number of homeless women living on the streets and in shelters increased by 22 percent in the last two years alone," says Eric Bauer, executive director of Portland Rescue Mission. "Thanks to the generosity of the M.J Murdock Charitable Trust, we will expand our services to meet the critical needs of homeless women. Our staff is equipped to provide highly relational care, in a safe and supportive environment."

Expansion of Portland Rescue Mission's outreach services were made possible due to renovations on the second floor of the Mission's Burnside Shelter, located at 111 W. Burnside St. The renovations include a women's dayroom and a 16-bed dorm for women who are participating in Connect, a three month residential program aimed at moving homeless women from the street to housing, employment or residential addiction treatment programs.

About Portland Rescue Mission

Since 1949, Portland Rescue Mission has provided hope to homeless men, women and children throughout our community. The Mission provides for the most basic needs of homeless people and also addresses the root causes of homelessness through highly relational ministry. We serve up to 950 meals a day, 365 days a year, shelter, mail services and 24/7 safe, clean restrooms. Our New Life Programs provide total life recovery, including addictions recovery, spiritual renewal, and life skills for men and women. Up to 42 women and their children live together and journey through recovery at Shepherd's Door, and up to 42 men live in The Harbor throughout the 12-month residential program.

Portland Rescue Mission is completely supported by the goodwill of the community and has more than 3,000 volunteers through which operations are possible. To learn more, visit www.portlandrescuemission.org.

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