



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

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Introduction

The goal of Operation HOME is to eliminate the minority homeownership gap in Portland by 2015 by creating 13,000 new homeowners of color. Our commitment to this goal is grounded in the following beliefs:

- Through homeownership, a family invests in an asset that has the potential to grow in value, generate financial security and provide opportunities for future generations.
- Homeownership enables people to have greater control and exercise more responsibility over their living environment.
- Homeownership helps stabilize neighborhoods and strengthen communities.
- Homeownership helps generate jobs and stimulate economic growth.
- Everyone should have fair and equal access to homeownership.

As Operation HOME moves into implementation it will be guided by the following principles:

Education – Operation HOME is dedicated to educating and empowering people of color to become homeowners and supports service provision that is delivered in a manner that best meets the needs of the consumer.

Learning – Operation HOME also invests in its own learning and trusts in the process of discovery. Discovery often fractures existing world views. Learning requires that you leave room for growth and change.

Value Diversity – Our differences assure that Operation HOME is a forum for the expression, consideration and evaluation of ideas. We strive to view issues from the other person's perspective and embrace diverse beliefs and ideas.

Innovation – Operation HOME promotes a culture that encourages reasonable risk taking, creative thinking, and strategic problem solving, and fosters the development of new or enhanced services that meet minority community needs.

Leadership – Operation HOME anticipates needs, seeks out opportunities for improvement, and works to identify and remove obstacles to success. We provide new and evolving services, build consensus, and serve as a unifying voice and advocate for minority homeownership in Portland.

Respect – Respect is essential for nurturing free and open dialogue, exploration and creative expression of ideas. Respect is demonstrated by a commitment to act ethically, to welcome differences, and to engage in open exchange of ideas and decisions.

Community Partnership – Operation HOME seeks out and embraces alliances and partnerships that support and promote our mission, desired outcomes, and strategies. We incorporate the views of our partners, building on diversity as a strength and working in partnership with others to achieve results.