



People gather at a free community resource fair to learn about how to repair and weatherize homes and find affordable pathways to home ownership.

# Resource Fair on Housing

## Minority contractors co-sponsor Saturday event

BY BEVERLY CORBELL  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Minority contractors in Portland are encouraging current and future homeowners alike to benefit from a free Community Resource Fair to be held Saturday, Sept. 14 from 9 a.m. to noon at New Song Community Church, 2511 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Co-sponsored by the Oregon Chapter of the National Association of Minority Contractors, the Portland Housing Bureau and Energy Trust of Oregon, the event promises to be an opportunity for

people to learn about programs and resources that are available to help them repair and weatherize their homes, save money on energy consumption, find affordable ways to buy a house, and even information on job and apprenticeship possibilities.

The resource fair is open to everyone but people of color are especially encouraged to attend to learn about minority contractors to work with, and minority contractors can also learn about opportunities through the Portland Housing Bureau.

You can also learn how home improvements can qualify for energy rebates as well as learn about other helpful programs, said Eddie Lincoln, program manager for the minority contractors.

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The process of becoming a first-time home buyer can be daunting, but Portland Community Reinvestment, Inc. (PCRI), the African American led community non-profit, can help with counseling designed to help you overcome obstacles.

# Home Ownership Action Plan

Are you interested in becoming a homeowner? You could be closer to your dream house than you think.

Pathway 1000, an initiative by Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives, Inc. (PCRI), an African American led community nonprofit, is here to help!

PCRI's Homeownership Education and Counseling program assists first-time buyers in creating a successful homeownership action plan. One-on-one counseling is designed to help overcome obstacles that would prevent af-

fordable mortgage financing.

PCRI can help analyze financial and credit situations, identify barriers and develop a plan to remove these barriers. It also works to assist participants with debt-load management by preparing a manageable, monthly budget plan.

Space is still available for a session on Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 6 p.m. at the PCRI Annex at 6601 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. To sign up for this class or future ones, visit [pcrihome.org](http://pcrihome.org) or [pathway1000.org](http://pathway1000.org).

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