



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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13th & Fir Ribbon-Cutting on June 13

SEATTLE, WA – Next week, the number 13 spells luck for families in Seattle. On Tuesday, June 13, 13th & Fir will officially open its doors to the community. A [ribbon-cutting ceremony](#) featuring remarks from project leaders will begin at noon in front of the building (115 13th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122). Press is welcome to stay after the ceremony for building tours, including exclusive looks at the groundbreaking apartment homes.

Part of a larger effort to address Seattle's critical shortage of affordable housing, 13th & Fir brings 156 new apartments to the Yesler Terrace neighborhood, across the street from Bailey-Gatzert Elementary School. Designed with families in mind, 13th & Fir apartment sizes range from studios all the way up to 4-bedroom units, and will serve those earning 30% and 60% of the Area Median Income. The Denise Louie Education Center will operate an 8,000 square foot childcare and early education center on the ground floor of the building, near Denise Louie's first and original location. The new building also includes roughly 2,500 square feet of retail space for local businesses.

13th & Fir is a joint partnership between two public development authorities, Seattle Chinatown International District Preservation and Development Authority (SCIDpda) and Community Roots Housing (CRH). The project marks an important milestone in the redevelopment of Yesler Terrace. In the early 1940s, the Seattle Housing Authority established Yesler Terrace as the first public housing development in the state and the first racially integrated public housing in the country. Census data designates the location as an area with a high risk of displacement and high level of access to opportunity. In 2018, SCIDpda and CRH won a joint bid to Seattle Housing Authority to develop a mixed-use affordable housing project on a lot that previously served as the site for the King County Archives. Today, 13th & Fir stands in one of the most central neighborhoods in Seattle, offering new, current, and previously displaced residents convenient access to jobs, school, healthcare, transit, and opportunity.

"This project allowed our organization and development partners to co-create a uniquely cohesive place for families to grow and access nearby resources in affordable housing that was designed with them in mind," said Jamie Lee and Jared Jonson, Co-Executive Directors of SCIDpda. "We are incredibly excited to see the community move in and truly make 13th & Fir their new home."

SCIDpda, an organization with 48 years of providing services to immigrants and communities of color, serves as the primary developer and property manager. Community Roots Housing serves as co-developer on the project, Mithun is the architect, and Marpac Construction is the general contractor.

“Working families are being pushed out of the city by a lack of affordable, appropriately sized housing,” said Christopher Persons, CEO of Community Roots Housing. “Our hope is that the three- and four-bedroom homes at 13th & Fir foster empowerment and stability for families in search of a place they can call their own.”

13th & Fir was made possible through a partnership with the Seattle Housing Authority (the landowner and a project funder), the City of Seattle’s Office of Housing, Seattle Human Services Department, and the Department of Commerce’s Early Learning Facilities program. Construction financing is provided by Capital One and JPMorgan Chase, and equity is provided by Hudson Housing Capital and Capital One.

For more information about 13th & Fir, please visit the official website at 13fir.com. Members of the media are encouraged to attend the grand opening event to learn more about this transformative development and its impact on the local community.

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About SCIDpda

Seattle Chinatown International District Preservation and Development Authority (SCIDpda) is a community development organization whose mission is to preserve, promote, and develop the Seattle Chinatown International District as a vibrant community and unique ethnic neighborhood. Formed by the community in 1975, SCIDpda works to revitalize and preserve the neighborhood by providing services in three primary areas: affordable housing and commercial property management, community economic development and community engagement, and real estate development. SCIDpda has 45+ years of experience in increasing neighborhood sustainability through innovative programs and projects that balance development and preservation. Learn more at scidpda.org

About Community Roots Housing

Everyone has the right to a quality, affordable home. At Community Roots Housing, this truth drives our work. By embracing community-led development and engaging in deep-rooted partnerships, we’re fostering vibrant, equitable communities where everyone has access to safe, affordable, and welcoming homes. Today, with nearly 50 apartment buildings and over 2,000 residents, we continue our commitment to build community with and for people. Learn more at communityrootshousing.org.

About Denise Louie Education Center

Denise Louie Education Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation that has been providing high-quality multicultural early learning and family support services for low-income children and families in the King County area since 1978. We respect and preserve each child and family’s individuality, cultural heritage, and home language. We promote personal and social responsibility with integrity and love in an environment defined by social justice and peace. To learn more about Denise Louie Education Center, go to deniselouie.org.