

PRESS RELEASE

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NONPROFIT HOUSING ORGANIZATION COMMUNITY FRAMEWORKS BEGINS  
REVITALIZATION OF BREMERTON NEIGHBORHOODS

BREMERTON, WA., December 14, 2012 – A neighborhood block near Armin Jahr elementary school is about to receive a facelift from a local housing nonprofit as the first in a series of planned home rehabilitation projects.

Community Frameworks has purchased two adjacent homes as part of its Built in Bremerton program, which is designed to renovate vacant, foreclosed or otherwise dilapidated houses into safe, decent, and beautiful places to live. The two properties are located on Eagle Avenue in Bremerton. One of the homes will be renovated with a new roof, refinished flooring, energy efficiency upgrades (heating system, appliances, added insulation, and new windows), and will receive fresh paint and landscaping on the outside in order to contribute to neighborhood beautification. The neighboring uninhabitable structure will be torn down and replaced with a brand new 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom Energy Star rated home.

Once renovated, these homes will be sold to homebuyers of modest means. Homebuyers are required to contribute “sweat equity” labor toward the completion of their new home in order to be eligible for up to \$45,000 toward down payment assistance. “Since the homebuyers work on the homes themselves,” explained Linda Hugo, President and Chief Executive Officer of Community Frameworks, “they are able to contribute to the home’s affordability, so that it is less expensive to them on a monthly basis.” The homes are expected to be completed and ready for homeowners by March 2013.

The goal of the Built in Bremerton program is to revitalize our local neighborhoods by fixing up distressed properties and in turn provide affordable homeownership opportunity to people who will live in the homes themselves. Studies show that homeowners take better care of their properties than do renters or rental property owners, and are more involved in the communities where they live.

Local partners in the project include American Financial Solutions who performs credit counseling and homebuyer education, and Housing Kitsap, who manages construction on the homes. Funding for this program has been provided by the City of Bremerton, HUD’s Self Help Homeownership Opportunity Program (SHOP), NeighborWorks America, and the Bremerton Housing Authority.

Community Frameworks is a nonprofit organization with offices in Bremerton and Spokane, whose mission is to support and develop affordable housing as a foundation upon which individuals, families and neighborhoods can build vital communities. They facilitate the construction of affordable rental and shelter housing with supportive services, as well as provide homeownership and rental housing opportunities for hard working families. They have been in existence since 1974. For more information about homeownership opportunities in Bremerton, contact Courtney Kipfer at (360) 377-7738 ext. 316 or visit [www.communityframeworks.com](http://www.communityframeworks.com).

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