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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

No Evictions for Non-Payment of Rent during COVID-19 State of Emergency

Home Forward pledges to accommodate households experiencing pandemic-related income burden by allowing flexibility with rent collection

March 17, 2020 – Portland – Effective immediately, Home Forward has placed a moratorium on evictions related to the financial impacts of COVID-19 until May 31, 2020, with future extensions possible. The moratorium will prevent households from being evicted or from having to pay fees for late or non-payment of rent, due to loss of income related to COVID-19.

Under the moratorium, tenants at Home Forward properties must notify their property manager that they cannot pay rent due to a COVID-19 related impact to their income. The tenant will be asked to provide supplemental information to demonstrate that they cannot pay rent due to the financial impacts of COVID-19, for example, their place of work closed or they are at home without sick pay. Tenants who are granted temporary rent relief will resume paying rent on June 1, 2020, unless the moratorium is extended. Home Forward will offer repayment plans of up to 12 months for unpaid rent accrued during the moratorium.

“We care deeply about the health and safety of our residents. Households experiencing the economic impacts of COVID-19 should not have to worry about the stability of their housing or mounting debt during a public health emergency,” says Executive Director Michael Buonocore. Home Forward is urging the State and Federal government to provide emergency rent assistance to households earning low-incomes in the private market, and funding to reimburse affordable housing providers so that we can waive unpaid rent and maintain our operations.

Home Forward is the largest provider of affordable housing in the state of Oregon. The mission of Home Forward is to assure that the people of the community are sheltered. Home Forward has a special responsibility to those who encounter barriers to housing because of income, disability or special need. Home Forward will continue to promote, operate and develop affordable housing that engenders stability, self-sufficiency, self-respect, and pride in its residents and represents a long-term community asset. Home Forward will be a community leader to create public commitment, policy and funding to preserve and develop affordable housing. For more information, call (503) 802-8300 or visit www.homeforward.org.

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