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MEDIA ADVISORY:

NEW AFFORDABLE HOMES FOR SENIORS IN OAKLAND

Grand Opening of The Altheim

WHAT: Grand Opening of The Altheim

WHO: City of Oakland Councilmember Ignacio de la Fuente; Ilene Weinreb, Eden Housing Board of Directors; Linda Mandolini, Executive Director of Eden Housing; Daniel Lopez, President of Citizens Housing Corporation; Annette Billingsley, Senior Vice President of Union Bank; John Chan, Vice President of US Bank; Michael Willis, Altheim, Inc., Altheim residents; and Eden Housing partners and supporters.

WHEN: Thursday, December 16, 2010 at 12:00 – 1:30pm

WHERE: 1720 MacArthur Boulevard, Oakland, CA 94602

The Altheim (German for “Elder’s Home”) is a former senior assisted living facility on a six-acre campus in Oakland’s Dimond/Glenview district. The community was founded in the 1890s by immigrants from German-speaking countries, received the Partners in Preservation Award from the Oakland Heritage Alliance in 2007, and is now on the National Register of Historic Places.

“The Altheim is so important to Oakland—as a landmark, as a housing resource for low-income seniors, and as a boost for our economy,” said Councilmember Ignacio de la Fuente. “Through the restoration and development of the Altheim, more than 150 jobs have been created.”

The Altheim was developed by Citizens Housing Corporation and recently transferred to Eden Housing, Inc. for completion. The newly restored campus consists of 174 beautiful, brand-new affordable apartments for senior households earning 20% to 55% of Area Median Income.

Phase I of the renovation project, completed in 2006, restored the beautiful campus and grounds, creating 93 studio and one bedroom apartments in the existing historic buildings and over 10,000 square feet of community space that houses on-site supportive services, community and creative programs for residents. The second phase of this development consists of three new buildings that complement and integrate with the historic structures and provide 81 additional senior apartments. Expected to receive a GreenPoint Rated Score of over 130 points, The Altheim is constructed using sustainable building methods, and incorporates a number of features designed to ensure its long-term energy-efficiency and sustainability.

“One of the truly unique elements of this project, among so many, is the concept of ‘aging in place’,” said Linda Mandolini, Eden Housing’s Executive Director. “Seniors have worked hard and want to be settled at this time of their life. The idea of not having to move in order to get the support services they need creates such a positive environment and atmosphere, allowing seniors to do so much more.”

About Eden Housing

In its 42 years of service throughout Northern California, non-profit Eden Housing, Inc has provided a roof for over 58,000 people. Hayward-based Eden Housing is the long-term owner-operator of its developments, and is committed to preserving and maintaining its buildings as community assets and supporting residents with a range of services. Since the organization’s beginnings in 1968, Eden Housing has developed 5,688 housing units and 61,100 square feet of adjoining commercial/retail space in 80 properties. Eden has over 4,500 apartments in its property management portfolio and provides access to supportive resident services programs at 100% of the sites. For more information about The Altheim or other affordable housing opportunities through Eden Housing, visit www.edenhousing.org.

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