

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Rebecca Spencer
Director of Fundraising and Marketing
PEP Housing
951 Petaluma Boulevard South
Petaluma CA
94952

Phone: 707-762-2336

rebeccas@pephousing.org
www.pephousing.org

Santa Rosa, CA, May/June 2012:

A Grand Opening event was held on May 23 in Santa Rosa for the opening of Acacia Lane Senior Apartments. This event celebrated the important achievement of completion of the building, offering much-needed quality affordable housing for low-income seniors to Santa Rosa by PEP Housing, now in its 35th year of serving the low-income elderly. Residents will soon move in to this lovely 3-story community at 657 Acacia Lane, set in a quiet, peaceful residential neighborhood, next to the Scottish Rite Masonic Center. There are 44 1-bedroom apartments, all designed with safe mobility in mind for independent senior residents. Common area amenities include a spacious community room, with NuStep exercise machine, and community kitchen. There is also a library, a patio with outdoor seating, and charming landscaped grounds.

Acacia Lane Senior Apartments has been built with green-rated methods of construction, as well as 100% universal design, which allows independent seniors and people with disabilities to retain their independence for much longer periods by incorporating design features which help prevent falls and injuries. Features such as outlets positioned higher off the ground, and the installation of side opening ovens are just two of the many subtle design features PEP Housing has added to their developments in order to help those who may have to use a walker, cane, or wheel chair.

Who does PEP Housing serve? The average person who has chosen Acacia Lane for their new home is 72 years young, and has an income of \$15, 250 per year.

The affordable housing need is great and growing for low-income seniors, so PEP's endeavors continue: PEP's property in Petaluma is slated for ground-breaking this fall with 50 new apartment units, called Kellgren Senior Apartments. In time, PEP's property in Oroville, called Orange Tree Senior Apartments, will follow with 50 units. The goal for PEP is steady development of quality affordable housing to accommodate more

seniors in need, and to hopefully reduce the current two-year waitlist period for PEP Housing applicants.

ABOUT PEP HOUSING — PEP Housing is a nonprofit organization that provides quality affordable housing for low-income seniors, as well as housing support services and advocacy. Founded in 1978 by a group of clergy and citizens concerned about the plight of seniors living in substandard conditions, Petaluma Ecumenical Properties, aka PEP Housing has developed and now manages 14 properties with 331 apartments accommodating over 360 low-income seniors with safe, dignified, and affordable homes. PEP Housing properties feature the highest design and construction standards, and incorporate innovative “green” building practices and universal design characteristics. Future PEP Housing projects currently slated for completion in the coming two to three years will bring those numbers to 16 properties and 431 units for low-income seniors.

-----END-----