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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Transformational Housing Community Receives \$75,500 in Energy Improvements**

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DENVER – An affordable housing community for dozens of people who have overcome disadvantages such as homelessness, abuse and addictions is benefiting from a free energy efficiency upgrade for its northeast Denver facility.

Victory Apartments is one of three transformational housing facilities with live-in staff run by nonprofit, Providence Network. Their holistic program provides room, board, counseling, mentoring, accountability, vocation assistance, addictions recovery and life skills development.

More than \$75,500 in energy efficiency improvements were recently installed in the 20-unit apartment facility through Energy Outreach Colorado's Nonprofit Energy Efficiency Program (NEEP), which provides free energy audits and efficiency upgrades for qualifying nonprofit facilities across the state.

Energy Outreach, the Denver Office of Strategic Partnerships, Xcel Energy and the Governor's Energy Office funded the installation of efficient lighting and windows, pipe

insulation, low-flow showerheads and faucet aerators. Each apartment was also equipped with new refrigerators and air conditioners.

The improvements are projected to save Providence Network nearly \$7,000 annually in energy costs – funds that can increase the number of individuals able to benefit from their housing opportunities.

“As a nonprofit serving the inner city and operating out of older buildings, it is a challenge to raise the funds necessary for building improvements and for critical services,” said Derek Kuykendall, executive director of Providence Network. “This is where Energy Outreach has made a significant impact! The extensive updates provided through NEEP at Victory Apartments has drastically reduced our energy expenses and dramatically improved the living environment. What an incredible blessing for those working hard to overcome a difficult past in order to provide a safe, healthy home for their family.”

EOC established NEEP in 2007 to help nonprofit facilities reduce operating costs and continue to provide vital community services. NEEP has received funding for other projects from United Power, Tri-State Generation & Transmission Co., EnCana Oil and Gas, Noble Energy and the StePP Foundation. Since 2007, it has provided 92 nonprofit facilities owned by 53 organizations with free energy audits and efficiency upgrades.

### **About Energy Outreach Colorado**

Energy Outreach Colorado is the only independent, non-profit organization in the state that raises money to help limited income Coloradans afford home energy. Since 1989, EOC has raised nearly \$136 million to fund energy bill payment assistance and energy efficiency upgrades for affordable housing. Energy Outreach Colorado relies on private donations, corporate contributions and foundation grants. It has received top ratings from Charity Navigator for eight

consecutive years and is an accredited charity by the Better Business Bureau. Energy Outreach Colorado, [www.EnergyOutreach.org](http://www.EnergyOutreach.org), can be reached at 303-825-8750 or at 225 E. 16<sup>th</sup> Ave. Ste. 200, Denver, CO 80203-1612.

### **About Providence Network**

Providence Network is a charitable organization providing housing, faith-based counseling and adult life skills training. Since 1988, its homes have provided the opportunity to overcome addictions, heal from emotional trauma and economic hardships, grow and be loved unconditionally in a healthy environment of live-in staff, mentors and peers. It offers a “FirstStep” transitional program with a home for single men and women and a home for abused women and children, “NextStep” affordable housing and services for transitional graduates, and an alumni program providing support for graduates who live on their own. For additional information, please visit [www.providencenetwork.org](http://www.providencenetwork.org) or call 303-860-8404.

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