



Proud Ground
Diane Linn, Executive Director
dianelinn@proudground.org
503-493-0293

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Proud Ground Invests in Community Relations Team

Proud Ground is pleased to announce a significant increase in their community-facing capacity. With the goal to better engage stakeholders and community resources, Proud Ground has created two new, external roles, hiring Jackie Giordano as Fund Development Manager and Briauna McKizzie as Communications Coordinator.

“While providing permanent affordable homeownership opportunities to working families, Proud Ground also serves as a leading, affordable housing partner. Proud Ground strategically collaborates with community-based organizations to improve housing affordability region-wide and is dedicated to being at the table with communities to create strategies to ensure a livable, equitable and economically viable community where every family can thrive,” remarked Diane Linn, Executive Director of Proud Ground. “It is thus critical to invest in our staff capacity to better communicate to the community and engage the many stakeholders and leaders working towards a more affordable region.”

Giordano will act as a connector by bridging communities to Proud Ground and donors to the Proud Ground mission - that every family can live or remain in their community of choice. Giordano has extensive affordable housing and non-profit experience in both Portland, OR and Boston, previously working with the Portland Housing Bureau and North Shore CDC, a Boston-based, regional community development corporation. A resident of North Portland, she also serves on the development committee of KairosPDX and is a member of Social Venture Partners’ Rising Leaders for Social Good program.

Briauna McKizzie will be a resource for Proud Ground’s homeowners and waitlist families, while also engaging Portlanders in Proud Ground’s advocacy work and community events to promote the critical role of homeownership in the housing continuum. Formerly an undergraduate of PSU and graduate of, Full Sail University McKizzie is excited to return to the non-profit sector after working in the private sector working with GoLocalPDX and Comcast. Her efforts in affordable housing began when she witnessed both her brother and her grandparents struggling to find affordable housing in the Portland Metro. Consequently, she is looking forward to being a part of an innovative movement to create realistic options for housing for families in Oregon.

It is Proud Ground’s intention to use these staff members as external resources for the greater community, increasing engagement in Proud Grounds mission of creating affordable homeownership opportunities for hardworking families. As Proud Ground grows to serve more moderate- and low-income families throughout greater geographies, these staff will help support efforts to create a more robust community of residents, volunteers, donors, and board members committed to the mission. The public is encouraged to directly reach out to the staff at Jackie@proudground.org and Briauna@proudground.org or call 503-493-0293.

Dreams Start Here.

5288 N INTERSTATE AVE., PORTLAND, OREGON 97217, 503.493.0293, www.proudground.org