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Together Center completes \$106M redevelopment of Redmond campus

- **The project included the addition of 280 units of affordable housing and new office space for 22 nonprofits.**

By [JOURNAL STAFF](#)

Together Center is celebrating the completed redevelopment of its human services hub/campus at [16305 N.E. 87th St. in downtown Redmond](#). The reimaged and significantly expanded campus officially reopened Sept. 9.

The nonprofit has operated a services hub at the approximately 2.5-acre site since the early 1990s, formerly in a converted 1980s strip mall. That structure is now demolished and has been replaced with two six-story buildings designed by Olson Architects.

Those buildings have 280 affordable housing units on floors one through five and approximately 49,000 square feet of ground-floor office space divided between 22 nonprofits providing critical community services. The campus also includes co-working spaces for the nonprofits to collaborate on client care, a nonprofit conference and events center, community kitchen, and public art gallery.

The housing is a mix of affordable and workforce units. The east building, also called the Mountain Building, has 80 low-income units, including some for the formerly homeless, managed by Horizon Housing Alliance. This building, on the corner of Northeast 87th Street, also houses Together Center's new main entryway and lobby, which includes a wall installation honoring the renovation project's donors.

The larger west building, which is addressed at 16255 87th St., has 200 workforce units across two wings called the Sound and Forest. Those units are for households earning in a range of 50% to 60% of area median income and are operated by Polaris, a division of Inland Group, which is also the project's general contractor. Units at Polaris at Together Center range from studios to three-bedrooms. The development is now leasing apartments, with rents ranging from \$1,410 for a studio to \$2,079 for a three-bedroom with over 1,000 square feet.

The campus is served by 227 parking stalls on one underground level for both staff and tenants. It is about 15 minutes by foot,



Photos courtesy of Together Center [\[enlarge\]](#)

The transformed campus aims to “bring people together and foster a sense of belonging in East King County.” The east building is pictured.

southbound, to the future light rail Downtown Redmond Station.

Inland Group broke ground on the redevelopment in March 2021. At that time, Together Center's then 20 nonprofit partners were relocated to temporary spaces throughout downtown Redmond.

The campus transformation took approximately two years to build and cost \$106 million. Funding sources include the Washington State Housing Finance Commission, Microsoft and a mix of public and private donations.



[\[enlarge\]](#)

The center's new lobby includes a project donor wall designed by Third Place Design Cooperative.

To mark the completion of work, a festive ribbon-cutting and community celebration was held last weekend, which Together Center says was attended by more than 500 people. Representatives from all of the center's 22 nonprofits simultaneously cut their ribbons in one "better together" gesture. The event also featured campus tours, a meet-and-greet with nonprofit leaders and elected officials, food trucks, and a balloon twister for the kids.

"It is wonderful to see the tremendous turnout and support for Together Center's grand opening," Together Center CEO Kim Sarnecki said in her opening remarks at the event. "It is reflective of the many hearts, heads, and hands that made this project possible. It has truly been a community effort," she continued.

"This project brings together so many critical needs in one place — housing, services, and community space, all within walking distance of high-capacity transit," King County councilmember Claudia Balducci added at the proceedings.



[\[enlarge\]](#)

The center's 22 nonprofits cut ribbons during the grand reopening celebration on Sept. 9.

The project team for the redevelopment of the Together Center campus also included: DCI Engineers, structural; Earth Solutions NW, geotechnical engineer; KPFF, civil engineer; Dureya & Associates, surveyor; and Fazio & Associates, landscape architect.

The nonprofits at Together Center are: 4 Tomorrow; A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH); BrightSpark; Cascadia College; Chinese Information and Service Center (CISC); City of Redmond Homeless Outreach Services; Community Health Plan of Washington; Disability Empowerment Center; Eastside for All; Essentials First; HealthPoint Dental & Medical Clinics; IKRON; Indian American Community Service; Jewish Family Service (JFS); Kinderling; Lake Washington Tech — Workforce Development; Lake Washington School District Transition Academy; Muslim Community Resource Center (MCRC); NAMI Eastside; Open Doors for Multicultural Families; SOUND; and Sound Generations.

