



# Community Update

## May 2018



### Frey and Warsame join MPHA to roll out major security investment at The Cedars

A standing-room only crowd gathered at The Cedars to learn about plans for an \$825,000 investment MPHA will make this summer in major security enhancements for the buildings and grounds: six-foot fences, gated parking lots, 17 additional security cameras, and new vestibules to inhibit unauthorized entry to the buildings. Following incidents that shook the neighborhood in early 2017, residents helped MPHA design the improvements they felt would bring a greater sense of safety to their homes and community. The [Star-Tribune](#), [KSTP-TV](#), and Minneapolis Somali TV covered the meeting.

### MPHA celebrates launch of new homes for homeless youth and ex-offenders

This month, MPHA contributions helped realize both a long-awaited grand opening (see next item) and a groundbreaking! MPHA helped “turn the dirt” for [Great River Landing](#), a new apartment building for 72 men committed to positive change after incarceration. GRL combines stable housing with counseling and job training. Once built, MPHA’s project-based vouchers will subsidize the rent on 40 units, providing more than \$4 million of support over the next 20 years. MPHA staff (on right) celebrated with **Better Futures** CEO Dr. Thomas Adams and **Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative** Executive Director Lee Blons.



(Photo: Anna Botz)



### Faces of MPHA: Meet Avanti and Pierre

May brought the official grand opening of [Downtown View](#), 46 apartments providing transitional homes, education, and job support to youth experiencing homelessness. In support of core partners **YouthLink** and **PPL**, MPHA pledged project-based vouchers to 25 of the units—support worth more than \$3 million over the next 20 years. At the grand opening celebration, we met **Avanti** and **Pierre**. Both have found a foothold at Downtown View, making an inspiring journey back from circumstances no young person should face. Pierre spoke to the more than 100 people in attendance, sharing his personal challenges and his goal to study aviation at the University of North Dakota.

Want to learn more?



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