



# Community Update

November 2018

## MPHA delegation heads to Cambridge to learn about public housing preservation

MPHA residents, staff, board members, and a Minneapolis City Council member took a two-day fact-finding trip to visit the Cambridge Housing Authority (CHA) in Massachusetts. The CHA is going through a full transformation of its public housing using the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD), Section 18, and Low-Income Housing Tax Credits to preserve buildings and keep people in their homes. The MPHA delegation **toured many of the buildings and MPHA residents had an opportunity to ask CHA staff and resident leaders about their experience with RAD and with periods of major construction.** MPHA residents expressed that it was important to see and hear for themselves that people were not displaced and buildings improved dramatically.



## Residents celebrate opening of pedestrian crosswalks near the Cedars

Public housing residents celebrated two new pedestrian crosswalks on South 6th Street that **were the culmination of many years of advocacy and planning** with the community, the City of Minneapolis Health Department, and Public Works to create a better passage between the Cedars residences and the area mosque and light rail station. Ward 6 Council Member Abdi Warsame, resident Mohamed Awed, and others spoke to how these crossings were a great start, as well as how there are additional measures needed to maximize pedestrian safety.



**Stan Phillips**  
U.S. Army,  
Signal Corps  
Served: 2001-2003  
VASH voucher  
participant

“I joined to get a skill, a trade, so that’s why I chose the profession I chose. I joined to try to better my life, so I could be able to be better to my children.”

“Once I found myself in a homeless situation and I started reaching out to different sources to try to find help to get myself out of that, the VA was there for me.”

“What being a veteran means to me is protecting and serving my country, my people. I set out to do a job and came back and sometimes I’m sad... I watched my best friend get killed next to me. But I joined because I was curious as a kid and through my service I got to see places I never thought I’d see in my lifetime.”



**Glenn Tate, Sr.**  
U.S. Army, Special Forces  
Served in the First Gulf War  
Public Housing resident: 10+ years

## Veterans Day: Honoring all who have served

MPHA is **proud to serve many veterans through our housing assistance programs**, including the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers. While MPHA has been able to award more than 300 rental housing vouchers, nearly one-third of these veterans remain homeless because they have not been able to find apartments or rental houses where they can use their vouchers.

Landlords who might have an interest in housing one of these veterans should call 612-342-1231 or email [kamend@mplspha.org](mailto:kamend@mplspha.org).