

Community Update

August 2019

New Affordable Housing Breaks Ground in the North Loop

MPHA and partners grabbed shovels to break ground on an affordable housing project that sits literally in our backyard. MPHA is proud to commit project-based vouchers to The Redwell, soon to rise in the North Loop neighborhood directly behind MPHA's central office.

The North Loop is bristling with new, high-end apartments but lacking in affordable ones. MPHA's projectbased vouchers don't just make the overall affordable housing project a reality; they assure at least 22 units will be available to the lowest-income households.

MPHA's investment is expected to top \$6.3 million over 20 years. The 109-unit, mixed-use project by Schafer Richardson looks to open in September 2020.





Sharpening Staff Skills: De-Escalating Difficult Situations

When an encounter turns tense, every instinct and decision can matter. That's why MPHA partnered with People Inc. and Minnesota Housing to offer recent staff training on deescalation, with a focus on public housing and mental health. More than 175 staff attended over two sessions. This class addressed the fundamentals of mental health and trauma to understand the nature of upset encounters, and practiced the tools and techniques we can use to diffuse them.

MPHA Property Manager Named Step-Up "Supervisor of the Year!"

Congratulations to MPHA Property Manager Rashida Jackson (below, at right), named a "Supervisor of the Year" by the Step-Up summer internship program. Rashida was nominated by her intern Jillian Petty:

"Rashida planned projects ahead of time, taking my interests and tailoring them to help me develop those specific skills. She took time every day to provide feedback, discuss goals, and steps moving forward within my internship and beyond. She guided me with compassion and understanding."

