

Community Update

October 2019



Residents appeal to Hennepin Co.: "Preserve VOA social workers!"

MPHA residents and MPHA Interim Executive Director Tracey Scott took their case to Hennepin County commissioners to reject a proposed 30% cut to Volunteers of America social workers who provide essential service to MPHA highrise residents. Despite serving many seniors and disabled adults, Congress provides no funding to MPHA for social services. VOA workers connect residents with resources, provide counseling in multiple languages, and literally save lives. If the cut goes through, said MPHA's Scott in her remarks, "more than 700 fewer residents would connect with a VOA social worker in 2020. The evidence over 40 years is that we need more for VOA, not less."

Paving the way to a more "walkable community" at Glendale.

MPHA staff, residents, and neighbors joined city officials, public health, and public works staff for a half-day "Walkable Communities" workshop and walking tour of the Glendale Townhomes. MPHA intends to use a modest kick-start conversations. education, grant to infrastructure changes to make Glendale a safer, more enjoyable place to walk and interact. Attendees visited problematic intersections and other danger zones to generate ideas and propose next steps.





Highrise leaders commit to another year of service.

Every year at the Annual Highrise Celebration, **Minneapolis** the Representative Council take an oath and commit another year of service to the public housing community in Minneapolis. They also honor outstanding examples of leadership throughout the past year. MPHA is much stronger for MHRC's ongoing leadership and partnership.