

## **Community Update**

November 2020



## Stable Homes Stable Schools Proposed As Permanent

Stable Homes Stable Schools launched in 2019 as a three-year partnership between MPHA, the City of Minneapolis, and Minneapolis Public Schools. SHSS targets rental assistance and supportive services to the one in 15 MPS students affected by

homelessness. The program grew to include emergency support for low-income MPS families affected by COVID-19, and now has reached more than 800 families and 2,300 children.

This month, MPHA joined Mayor Jacob Frey and other partners to celebrate the inclusion of Stable Homes as a permanent program in the mayor's 2021 budget. Although it will take years to fully assess the positive impact of stable housing for these elementary students, early indicators show substantial gains in school attendance and consistent enrollment compared with unassisted families. We believe Stable Homes Stable Schools is just hitting its stride, and MPHA is excited to continue this innovative partnership.



Over the past six months, MPHA has received 40,000 masks donated organizations and individuals to support MPHA staff and residents. THANK YOU to our community for your generosity!



MPHA received a \$50,000 grant from the Pohlad Family Foundation to fund the immediate need for toiletries and cleaning supplies for over 1,848 households in our high-rise buildings. As you can see, MPHA Community Connections and management staff have been excited to distribute it all!



## National Homelessness Awareness Month

Even before COVID-19 destabilized many low-income families, Minnesota was facing near-record levels of homelessness. The last comprehensive survey by the Wilder Foundation found that homelessness increased by 10% between 2015 and 2018, with 20,000 Minnesotans homeless on an average night.

MPHA sits at a pivotal spot in the affordable housing continuum. Many people who enter our programs have experienced homelessness, and would be homeless without the assistance we provide. We provide targeted assistance through programs like Stable Homes Stable Schools, and our new Minnehaha Townhomes. Yet we are keenly aware that more than 20,000 families remain on our waiting lists, some of whom are homeless tonight. This November, pause to think of the people experiencing homelessness in our city, and how much more we have to do.