

*MPHA wishes our partners, supporters, and the 11,000 families in our programs a peaceful holiday season. Thank you for showing us the power of community in 2020! We look forward to serving you in 2021.*



## MN Lawmakers Pass \$16M for Preserving State's Public Housing

After repeated special sessions, plus the steady effort of MPHA and other housing advocates, this fall state lawmakers approved a bonding bill including **\$16 million** of General Obligation bonds to fund the **Publicly Owned Housing Program (POHP)**. Since its creation in 2012, **MPHA has been the state's most successful user of POHP grants to address essential capital repairs**. Recent uses include extensive window and elevator projects, and the complete renovation

of buildings like 1611 S. 6th Ave. (seen here). MPHA will continue to apply for this essential program to preserve our highrises, most of which are now more than 50 years old. MPHA has an estimated \$150M in minimum capital needs.



A special thank you to [Hennepin County](#) for donating hand sanitizer and 5,000 masks to support front-line MPHA staff and residents living in MPHA's public housing!



## A "Missing Link" to Tie Together the Elliotts Community

Construction remains on track at the Elliot Twins, with many residents now moved into new apartments. Since 1961, the towers have stood separately, with cramped common rooms, offices, and laundries. **In February, we project the opening of the new "community link" between them!** These 6,200 square feet will feature a spacious new community room, resident meeting/activity rooms, exercise room, kitchen, staff offices, and a single point-of-entry with a security desk. The new space created by the link also means larger laundry rooms and the addition of 10 new apartments at the Elliotts.



By October, MPHA had offered **COVID testing to more than 3,500 households in 22 MPHA buildings**. We are grateful to [Neighborhood Health Source](#), [Community University Health Care Center \(CUHCC\)](#), [People's Center Clinic and Services](#), [Hennepin Healthcare](#), and caring [VOA](#) social workers for making testing possible to residents who want it. Testing continues, with locations driven by the latest health data from Hennepin County.