



COVID Vaccine Headed to Every MPHA Highrise

Through the month of March, daily clinics are vaccinating thousands of elderly and disabled public housing residents—right where they live. This is an HUGE effort made possible in partnership with **Hennepin Healthcare** nurses, **the Minneapolis Health Department**, **Volunteers of America** social workers, and multicultural health educators. MPHA fought hard to bring the vaccine to our residents, who suffer disproportionately the affects of COVID-19 and who have worked so hard to keep their communities healthy.

Stable Homes Stable Schools: Desiree's Story

Minneapolis resident Desiree and her children were homeless after the building she was living in was sold. With nowhere else to go, Desiree and her fiancé were living in hotel rooms and staying with friends in the suburbs. After months of instability, staff at Pillsbury Elementary, her children's school, suggested the **Stable Homes Stable Schools** program.



“I have never had to ask for help besides this time,” Desiree said. “I’ve always figured it out on my own. But the program has made such a difference.”

Stable Homes Stable Schools is a rental assistance partnership aimed at the one in 15 students in the Minneapolis Public Schools who are at risk of homelessness. It is a nationally unprecedented collaboration between MPHA, the city, the county, the school district, and nonprofit partners like the YMCA. Through one-time supports and ongoing, monthly rental assistance like Desiree's, the program has reached nearly 1,000 families since launching in 2019.

Now that Desiree and her family have a home, she has gone through the process of enrolling herself in school and is marrying her fiancé. “I finally felt my family was headed in the right direction,” Desiree said.



What's so exciting about new software?

Amid the challenges of the past year, MPHA remained committed to a big project behind-the-scenes: a modern, unified software system to manage our housing programs. We have now gone LIVE with our new *Yardi Voyager* software! MPHA staff are working with a powerful new platform that will improve the experience for the families we serve. Property owners in our voucher program are working with us through their new online portal. And coming later this year, residents have new online tools for paying rent, updating their income and family information, and submitting maintenance requests.