BULLETIN



Right at Home

Attainable Housing, Strong Communities

Housing Society

FINANCIAL LITERACY PROGRAM FOR TENANTS

Servus Credit Union, our esteemed community partner, showcases its commitment to RAHHS by generously supporting our affordable housing cause. Beyond financial contributions, Servus is set to offer valuable financial literacy workshops for tenants.

In November 2023, Servus will partner with RAHHS to deliver a comprehensive financial literacy program to our building residents.

This workshop is designed to provide tenants with the essential knowledge to effectively manage their finances, aiding them in overcoming poverty and moving towards homeownership. With this foundation, we aim for a brighter future for those we serve.



EXTENDING THE LIFE CYCLE OF 30+ YEAR OLD AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROPERTIES

RAHHS has four buildings within its portfolio that have surpassed 30-40 years since their construction and are in need of refurbishment to continue their long-lasting impact on low-middleincome families. Through a funding agreement, RAHHS plans to spend money on much-needed refurbishments and will commence this large endeavor in the next few years.

With these renovations, we will be able to expand the lifecycle of the buildings and provide affordable housing to about 300 households for an additional 40 years, creating a positive and sustainable impact for generations to come.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ADDS AFFORDABLE HOUSING TO ITS COMMUNITY

Right at Home Housing Society began talks with St. Paul's Lutheran Church in 2019. The church aimed to transform an under-used land section into a welcoming area for lowincome families in need of affordable housing.



We're thankful to St. Paul for the land they gifted to Right at Home, along with significant financial support from the City of Edmonton, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) under the Rapid Housing Initiative Program, and the Government of Alberta, aiding the growth of the affordable housing project and community center.

The proposed project has two main parts. The first is the development of affordable housing units. This new project will have 11 homes for a mix of individuals and families experiencing low income, with two units being wheelchair accessible. RAHHS will provide its supportive management to the new residents of the building.

The second main part is the conversion of the existing church building into a versatile community space for local residents and different community groups. The shared areas in the church will help unite both the residents of the new housing and other neighbors in various activities, a valuable addition to the King Edward Park Community.

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MONTROSE TOWNHOMES FOR MULTI-GENERATIONAL FAMILIES



In June 2023, RAHHS experienced a tragic fire that damaged three of our near-completed townhomes in this project. The four houses were 80% completed and slated to be move-in ready for September 2023, destroyed due to arson. However, the Society remained committed to rebuilding the project quickly. Two of the new homes will be able to accept families to move in for November 2023, and the other two will have construction completed by March 2024.

Our Montrose Townhomes will serve large, multigenerational families experiencing poverty and replace two derelict houses on the land that was purchased. Each townhome will have 5 bedrooms for large families, with an additional 2-bedroom basement suite. Over time, it has become important to Right at Home to maintain the family unit. As grandparents age, or children become more independent into adulthood, the basement suite will offer an independent solution that keeps families together.

Part of the construction costs were covered under the City of Edmonton's "Problem Property Redevelopment Program", Government of Alberta and our generous donor, The Stollery Charitable Foundation. As you know, not only is there a shortage of affordable housing units for low-income families, there is a growing number of derelict properties in the city, which pose a real threat to the safety of people in our neighbourhoods. With this new project, RAHHS is not only improving the neighborhood outlook but also providing much-needed affordable housing in the area.

TENANTS HELPING TENANTS THROUGH PEER-SUPPORT LED INITIATIVE

RAHHS pioneered the supportive management model, which provides additional resources for tenants, including supports for mental well-being, and allowing some tenants the opportunity to gain work experience. Through our Supportive Tenant Employment Programs and Services (STEPS),



we have built a small social enterprise that provides tenants opportunities for casual employment while giving back to their neighbours.

In 2023, STEPS developed a janitorial service in which employed tenants are able to assist other residents with cleaning their living space where a physical or mental challenge has impeded the resident's quality of life. The program has been able to offer employment to 2 tenants and provide services to 10 tenants since its inception.



By assisting tenants with maintaining a clean living environment, hoarding concerns are mitigated and tenants are empowered to take pride within their home and build confidence in their independence. The tenant-to-tenant relationships have also improved mental well-being and helped develop a sense of community within our buildings.

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