

PATRIOT PLACE



APARTMENTS FOR VETERANS

A Columbia Housing Authority Partnership with the Truman VA



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Missouri Foundation for Health and Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines Award Funding to Create the Patriot Place – Apartments for Veterans

Columbia, MO – December 1, 2014: The Columbia Housing Authority announced today that it has received funding from the Missouri Foundation for Health (MFH) and Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines (FHLB) to help create Patriot Place – Apartments for Veterans.

Each agency awarded \$500,000 separately to the project for a total funding contribution of \$1,000,000. These two awards bring the housing authority within 69 % of its goal of \$4.5 million.

The Patriot Place – Apartments for Veterans are being created through a partnership between the Columbia Housing Authority and the Truman VA and contain 25 one-bedroom apartments for Veterans participating in the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) program. The VASH program serves Veterans by combining supportive services provided by the Truman VA with rent assistance from the Columbia Housing Authority.

“The awards from Missouri Foundation for Health and the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines puts us one step closer to finalizing the funding for this project,” stated Phil Steinhaus, CEO of the housing authority. “Missouri Foundation for Health has made a significant commitment to helping Veterans through this award. They truly recognize the vital connection between housing and positive health outcomes for Veterans when housing is connected with health and supportive services provided by the Truman VA.”

“Likewise, the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines, through their Strong Communities Fund, understands that affordable housing is a great community investment and that this project will significantly improve the quality of life for the Veterans we serve,” Steinhaus said.

The Patriot Place – Apartments for Veterans is the permanent housing component of the Welcome Home – Community for Veterans being created at the site of the former Deluxe Inn on Business Loop 70 East, Columbia. Construction is expected to begin in 2015.

The Welcome Home – Community for Veterans is an inclusive community for Veterans that is being co-developed by Welcome Home, Inc. a shelter for homeless Veterans, the Columbia Housing Authority, and the Truman VA and one of the first of its kind in Missouri. Each partner brings a unique set of resources to create a community where Veterans can seek shelter, receive health and supportive services, and transition into permanent housing and self-sufficiency.

The HUD-VASH program, created in 2008 by the U.S. Departments of Housing and Urban Development and Veterans Affairs, provides housing assistance and supportive services to Veterans. The Columbia Housing Authority and the Truman VA Hospital currently administer 105 HUD-VASH housing vouchers with supportive services provided by the Truman VA. Since its inception, the CHA and the Truman VA have served more than 175 Veterans through this program. Veterans are able to transition out of the HUD-VASH program and continue to receive housing assistance through the housing authority once they no longer need supportive services from the Truman VA.

In August 2014, the Patriot Place – Apartments for Veterans project was also awarded 25 Project-Based VASH vouchers, which will provide a permanent rent subsidy with supportive services for Veterans living in the apartments.

“A great aspect about the Patriot Place – Apartments for Veterans project is that once construction is complete, funding for operations is already in place with rent subsidies from HUD and supportive services from the VA,” said Steinhaus.

Once complete, the Patriot Place – Apartments for Veterans will contain 25 one-bedroom apartments, an office and programming space, a fitness room, computer lab, and laundry facilities. The building will feature energy efficient construction, HVAC, and appliances. Utility services will be provided.

The Welcome Home – Community for Veterans partnership will also allow Welcome Home, Inc. to expand its current housing capacity for homeless Veterans to 29 temporary shelter beds. The creation of a new Welcome Home facility will allow female Veterans to also receive housing assistance at the campus for Veterans. Welcome Home currently has housing for 9 male Veterans.

A new Supportive Services Center will adjoin the Welcome Home Shelter and will house supportive services staff from Welcome Home and the Truman VA and include programming space, a commercial kitchen, dining room, lounge area, computer lab, laundry facilities, and a patio.

“We are closing in on our financing goal of \$4.5 million to complete the Patriot Place – Apartments for Veterans project, Steinhaus said. We have secured a little more than \$3.1 million to date and have several promising requests for funding that are currently being considered.”

The partnership is scheduled to launch the Welcome Home – A Community for Veterans Capital Campaign in the near future to raise funds to complete the Welcome Home Shelter and Supportive Services.

ABOUT MISSOURI FOUNDATION FOR HEALTH

Missouri Foundation for Health is a resource for the region, working with communities and nonprofits to generate and accelerate positive changes in health. As a catalyst for change, the Foundation improves the health of Missourians through partnership, experience, knowledge, and funding.

To learn more please visit www.mffh.org.

ABOUT THE FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK OF DES MOINES – STRONG COMMUNITIES FUND

Your Federal Home Loan Bank supports strong communities. The formation of a three-tiered approach to giving, the Strong Communities Fund (SCF), recognizes the shared goal that we have with our partners to build strong communities through the creation of safe housing, sustainable economies and good jobs.

Housing programs: provide capital for the purchase, construction, or preservation of affordable housing. Programs include the Competitive Affordable Housing Program, Native American Homeownership Initiative and Homeownership Fund.

Homebuilding initiatives: contribute both financial and human resources to build or repair homes across FHLB Des Moines five-state district

Community support: assists organizations, through volunteer time, sponsorships and an award program, that create economically vibrant communities

To learn more please visit www.fhlbdm.com.