

# Twin Cities Housing Development Corporation Newsletter

400 Selby Avenue Suite C  
St. Paul, MN 55102

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## East Side Commons



*"I love it! You did a great job."*

- Janine

*"Thank you for keeping your promise. They did an amazing job, and now I need to take pictures to show all my co-workers."*

- Arthur

Last December, in partnership with East Side Neighborhood Development Company, we began the substantial rehab of 48 units on the East Side of St. Paul. The project also includes the addition of three new units. At the completion of the project, there will be 51 units of high-quality affordable housing in an area that has seen tremendous disinvestment and deterioration for many years.

Tammy Schnaible, the Real Estate Equities Portfolio Director responsible for the management of the site has received lots of positive feedback from the community. "Day after day all we hear from residents and prospective tenants is that they love what they have seen so far, and they can't wait to see what it will look like once it's all done. What a great community East Side Commons has become...I enjoy seeing all the smiles on the residents' faces when I walk through their permanent home with them. They say it's well worth the wait and having to move twice. Residents are overjoyed with the central air and the washer and dryer provided ...But most of all, everyone loves that they have a patio to sit on and can put patio furniture on."

John Vaughn, the Executive Director of East Side Neighborhood Development Company, spoke to the project's individual and neighborhood importance. "I drove by the new

townhome last week. It was about 95 degrees and a bunch of kids who just moved in were dancing in the sprinkler spray. They were having the time of their lives and it was great to see...I know the nearby Contender for the Faith Church and the folks at the Wilder Rec. Center are thrilled with the East Side Commons project. Really, the whole neighborhood has been working hard on safety and breaking down social isolation in that immediate area. This project is helping on both fronts."

We are well on our way to meeting important low-income housing needs on the East Side. Thanks to all of you who have been and continue to be part of the process. We look forward to completing the project this fall and having an open house so that you can see the fruits of our labor firsthand.

## **Youth VOICE Impacts Lives**



Youth VOICE is a mentoring and leadership development program for middle school and high school teens sponsored by Hamline University. TCHDC's partnership with Hamline will bring this program to Liberty Plaza for its eighth consecutive year this fall. Youth VOICE has supported many successful student leaders. Trey is one such student. When he was in 8th grade he applied successfully to Cretin Derham Hall with a reference from TCHDC's Program Coordinator and was awarded a full scholarship. Trey thanks the Youth VOICE and Liberty Plaza staff for playing an important part in his academic and athletic success. Liberty Plaza staff are proud to report Trey graduated in 2012 after four years on the honor roll and will attend St. Thomas University in the fall. We look forward to nurturing future student leaders through this great partnership.

Email [info@tchdc.org](mailto:info@tchdc.org) or call 651-292-0211 for more information about TCHDC activities.