

CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY

Housing Authority of the City of Camden & City of Camden Cramer Hill Neighborhood

project OVERVIEW

The Housing Authority of the City of Camden and City of Camden were awarded a \$35 million FY 2020 Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant for the Cramer Hill neighborhood. In the midst of significant reinvestment citywide, the City of Camden is overcoming historic challenges to create new opportunities for residents. Local partners secured a FY 2018 Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant and, with residents, created a comprehensive Transformation Plan for the Cramer Hill neighborhood. The award of the Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant will ensure the community's vision for Cramer Hill moves forward. This investment will spur the creation of 425 new, mixed-income housing units; improve the neighborhood's landscape by creating new open space and increasing opportunities for local businesses and homeowners; and increase families' access to quality jobs and education.

key PARTNERS

Michaels Development | Camden Redevelopment Agency | Camden City School District | Better Tomorrows | Cooper's Ferry Partnership | Ablett Village Resident Council | Cramer Hill Residents Association | Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers | Camden County | Camden County Police Department | Camden County Workforce Development Board | New Jersey Housing Mortgage and Finance Agency | ResinTech, Inc. | Rutgers University Camden | Salvation Army Kroc Center | St. Joseph's Carpenter Society | State of New Jersey

committed LEVERAGE (self-reported)

Housing Leverage Committed: \$65.55 million **People Leverage Committed:** \$27.09 million **Neighborhood Leverage Committed:** \$67.27 million

neighborhood BACKGROUND & VISION

The Cramer Hill neighborhood is a proud community that is already making strides towards revitalization. Ten years ago, an out of state developer proposed to displace 1,200 neighborhood families to make way for a golf course and big box retail stores. The plan was ultimately halted, galvanizing the community to create their own vision. As a result of the community's efforts, Cramer Hill has attracted several key investments. A state-of-the-art sports, recreation, and community center was created, repurposing the site of a former landfill by the river. A new manufacturing plant that created 300 living-wage jobs was brought into the community. A charter school was launched and a \$55 million waterfront park is near completion. A FY 2018 Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant provided further support to these efforts by coalescing hundreds of public housing residents, community residents and other stakeholders around a vision for further change.

The subsequent Cramer Hill Choice Transformation Plan, "Our Village, Our Neighborhood, Nuestra Comunidad" sets the stage for further investment in the neighborhood. This next stage of revitalization is primarily focused on the revitalization of Ablett Village, a 306-unit severely distressed public housing development.





Pictured: A rendering of the new Waterfront Park (left), slated to open in 2021. The boundaries of the Cramer Hill Choice Neighborhood (right) show

Cramer Hill along Camden's waterfront and adjacent to downtown.









Pictured: Conceptual renderings reimagine the Cramer Hill neighborhood. Top, a street view of the Ablett Village public housing site (left) will be transformed into a mixed-income community. The new development will preserve and expand affordable rental opportunities, as well as add additional market rate units. Off-site, several housing phases will transform vacant lots in Camden (bottom, left) into new housing across the Cramer Hill neighborhood. With both on-site and off-site components, the Housing Plan is intended to invest in and strengthen the fabric of the Cramer Hill neighborhood.

The goals of the Housing Transformation Plan are three-fold: (1) redevelop Ablett Village and neighboring vacant land to continue neighborhood revitalization success; (2) improve connectivity and access that Ablett Village residents have to the Cramer Hill neighborhood; and (3) create a favorable market environment for current and future homeowners by increasing access to affordable, safe, well-built energy-efficient homes. To do this, the Housing Authority of the City of Camden and their partner, Michaels Development, will create 425 mixed-income units on the original Ablett Village site and in key locations throughout the neighborhood.

The off-site phases of housing development will populate long-vacant blocks and make significant investments into the south-ern – and most distressed – portion of Cramer Hill. Additional planned neighborhood investments will strengthen the areas around these housing sites and along the neighborhood's commercial corridor, River Avenue. Planned investments include facade improvements along River Avenue, infrastructure upgrades, preservation and expansion of homeownership opportunities, as well as expanded transportation options and internet access.

Case management and a broad array of programs and services will be provided to Ablett village residents. The Housing Authority of the City of Camden will build upon their strong provider network of partners to improve resident opportunities. Ablett Village residents are already participating in HUD's Jobs Plus program, which to date has enrolled 174 residents in employment and training pathways. Similarly, the Housing Authority and their partnership coordinator, Better Tomorrows, will tap into a committed network of health partners that were brought together through a previous Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant effort in another Camden neighborhood. Finally, a continuum of supportive services beginning before birth and continuing through the infant and toddler years into pre-school, kindergarten, and beyond will contribute to academic outcomes for youth at Ablett Village.

CLEVELAND, OHIO

Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority & City of Cleveland Buckeye - Woodhill Neighborhood

project OVERVIEW

The Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority and City of Cleveland were awarded a \$35 million FY 2020 Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant for the Buckeye-Woodhill neighborhood. Since securing a Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant award in 2018, the Housing Authority, City, and community partners have made significant strides toward their goals, with the first phases of new mixed-income housing on the horizon. Now through the Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant, Buckeye-Woodhill can realize its full potential. The grantee and their partners will: create 800 new, mixed-income rental units; a new health clinic, early childhood education center, and retail space on a commercial corridor; rehab owner-occupied housing and infill vacant lots; and connect residents to employment, health, early learning, and education opportunities.

key PARTNERS

The Community Builders, Inc. | Cleveland Metropolitan School District | Burten, Bell, Carr | Care Alliance | Case Western Reserve University | The Cleveland Foundation | Cleveland Neighborhood Progress | Council for Economic Opportunities | DigitalC | East End Neighborhood House | Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority | Habitat for Humanity | Home Repair Resource Center | LAND studio | The Learning Center | Metro-Health | NeighborhoodGreen, LLC | Ohio Housing Finance Agency | Providence House | Purpose Built Communities | Say Yes | Starting Point | St. Luke's Foundation | Towards Employment | Tri-C Cuyahoga Community College

committed LEVERAGE (self-reported)

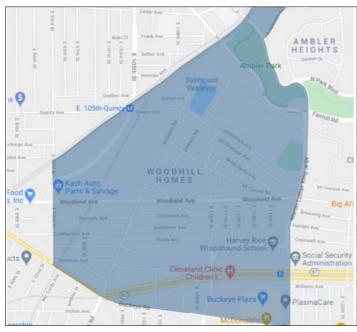
Housing Leverage Committed: \$115.37 million **People Leverage Committed:** \$30.28 million **Neighborhood Leverage Committed:** \$88.88 million

neighborhood BACKGROUND & VISION

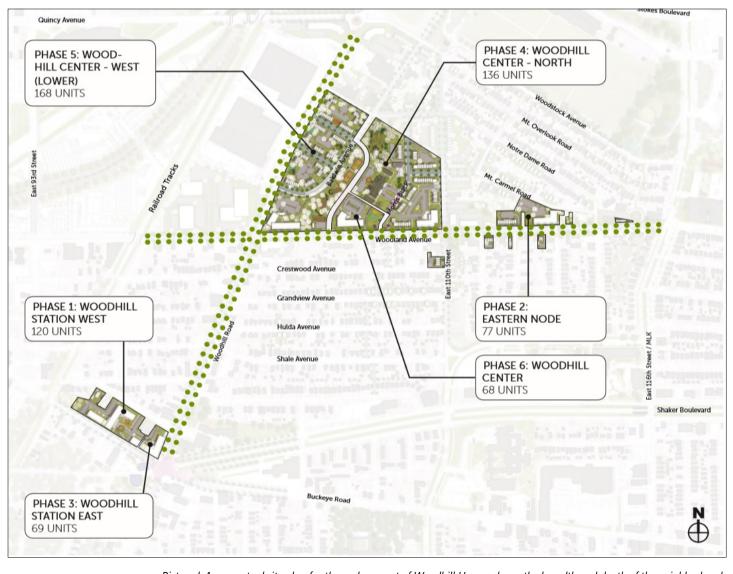
There is a stark change driving west on Larchmere Boulevard as it becomes Woodland Avenue in Cleveland. The bustling, diverse, mixed-use Larchmere District gives way to empty lots, dilapidated buildings, and eventually the worn-down Woodhill Homes. Constructed as a Works Progress Administration urban renewal project in the late 1930s, Woodhill Homes was ahead of its time and adorned with historical public art pieces celebrated by the community. But as Woodhill Homes became worn through the years, the neighborhood around it experienced decades of disinvestment and abandonment. Today, the large concentration of severely distressed public housing with an antiquated superblock street design has created persistent challenges experienced daily by Woodhill Homes' residents. Deteriorating housing, interminable crime, and barriers (social, economic, and physical) create an undeniable sense of isolation.

Though isolated, Woodhill Homes is located less than two miles south of University Circle, home to world-renowned anchor institutions such as the Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals, and Case Western Reserve University. Building on the strength of the surrounding neighborhoods, the City of Cleveland began to invest heavily in the Buckeye-Woodhill neighborhood. With a goal of generating momentum while honoring the legacy and desires of longstanding community residents, local stakeholders planned for comprehensive neighborhood transformation. With the award of a Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant in 2018, the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority engaged 800 participants in a comprehensive neighborhood planning process to plan for coordinated and catalytic investments in the Buckeye-Woodhill neighborhood. The resulting WoodhillUpNext Transformation Plan addresses the Buckeye-Woodhill neighborhood's isolation while seamlessly integrating housing, people, and neighborhood strategies.

The WoodhillUpNext Transformation Plan thoughtfully plans for the redevelopment of Woodhill Homes across onsite and offsite phases throughout the neighborhood to maximize transformation. The housing strategy deconcentrates poverty by building attractive, well-designed, mixed-income housing; strategically introduces transit-oriented development housing at an offsite location; and bridges the short distances to strong housing and employment markets in adjoining neighborhoods. The plan replaces all 487 existing units with 800 new mixed-income apartments.



Pictured: The boundaries of the Buckeye-Woodhill Choice Neighborhood.



Pictured: A conceptual site plan for the replacement of Woodhill Homes shows the breadth and depth of the neighborhood revitalization plan. New mixed-income housing will: be created at Woodhill Station to provide housing opportunities at a regional transit station; infill city blocks and strategic vacant parcels at the "Eastern Node" to reactivate the neighborhood's key corridor; and reimagine the Woodhill Homes site, complete with a central park area offering amenities and supportive services to residents.

The first two residential phases implement a "build first" strategy to minimize relocation and activate vacant land. Upon completion of the off-site phases, the Woodhill Homes site will be redeveloped with varied building types creating new housing options, arranged on attractive streets in a pedestrian-oriented grid.

The overall neighborhood strategy addresses the physical isolation experienced by residents by creating and improving existing infrastructure, concentrating nodes of investment, stabilizing neighborhood housing, creating opportunities to enhance wealth-building, and finally, strengthening the neighborhood identity through targeted placemaking and public space enhancements. These strategies are bolstered by critical community investments that leverage Choice Neighborhoods dollars with funding and expertise from strong community partners. These projects include creating neighborhood broadband, economic development incubator programs, a neighborhood housing improvement program, and multiple public art installations.

Quality housing and neighborhood improvements will be used as a foundation to link residents to new opportunities leading to stability and transformation. An integrated network of services and support will create pathways for both children and adults to strengthen social connections and achieve success in health, economic mobility, and education. This strategy capitalizes on the partnerships and momentum established through Buckeye-Woodhill's designation as a Purpose Built Community in 2019. Working with local partners, The Community Builders will provide direct case management for families and serve as the convener of programming and services at Woodhill Homes. Services aim to address resident needs and create opportunities for residents to break the cycle of poverty, heal from trauma, and experience peace in their homes and their community.

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

City of Detroit Greater Corktown Area

project OVERVIEW

The City of Detroit has been awarded a \$30 million FY2020 Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant for the Greater Corktown neighborhood. Their community-driven plan will ensure that as Detroit's oldest established neighborhood experiences unprecedented growth, it remains one that is vibrant, diverse, and provides opportunity for all residents. With the award of the Choice Neighborhoods grant, the City of Detroit and its partners will replace the distressed 87-unit HUD-assisted Clement Kern Gardens Apartments with over 800 units of mixed income housing. They will also enhance public spaces, integrate green infrastructure, and create a Community Empowerment Center. These physical investments will be paired with tailored health, employment, and education supports for the families living at Clement Kern Gardens Apartments.

key PARTNERS

The Community Builders | American Community Developers | Detroit Public Schools Community District | Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund | Detroit Economic Solutions Corp | Detroit Riverfront Conservancy | Ford Motor Company | Economic Development Corporation | Illinois Financial Fund | Michigan Department of Transportation | VIP Mentoring | Wayne Metro CAA | Wayne State University | WSU Center for Urban Studies | WSU College of Education

committed LEVERAGE (self-reported)

Housing Leverage Committed: \$119.7 million **People Leverage Committed:** \$7.3 million

Neighborhood Leverage Committed: \$866.3 million

neighborhood BACKGROUND & VISION

Like much of Detroit, Greater Corktown has weathered population loss, widespread demolition, and disinvestment. Lying west of downtown, Corktown was historically an enclave for Irish immigrants. Due to urban renewal during the 1950s, 75 acres of homes within Greater Corktown were cleared for industrial development, and the neighborhood was interrupted by multiple highways. Decades of disinvestment followed, leading to substantial blight, vacancy and crime throughout the neighborhood. Layered onto these circumstances, in the 1980's, the 87-unit HUD-assisted Clement Kern Gardens Apartments site was built in a way that isolated the apartments from the surrounding neighborhood.

Despite these challenges, the neighborhood's revitalization is well underway. Unprecedented growth is occurring thanks largely to small businesses and the Ford Motor Company's \$740 million redevelopment of the long vacant 650,000-square-foot Michigan Central Train Station into a global mobility hub.

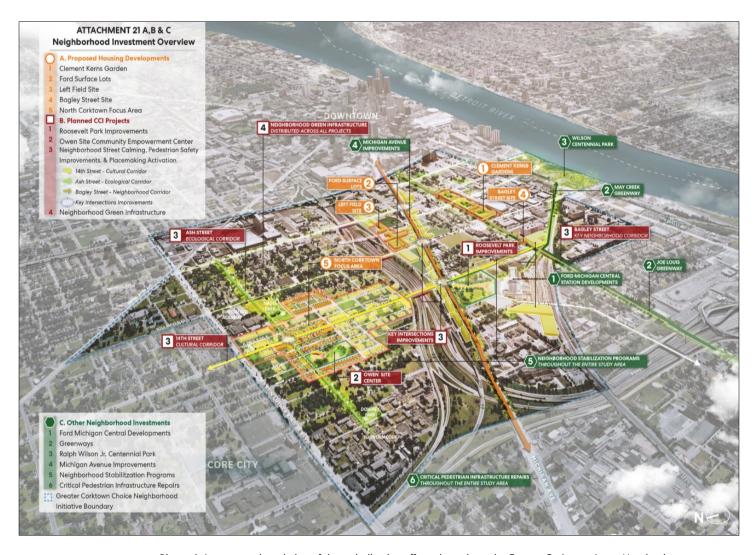
As a result, the neighborhood's community-driven Transformation Plan seeks to ensure that existing residents of Greater Corktown, and specifically the residents of the distressed Clement Kern Gardens Apartments, are not left behind or displaced by these unparalleled investments. With the award of a \$30 million Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant, the City of Detroit, the community, and their partners will turn their plan into reality.

Neighborhood improvements led by the City will create safe, healthy, and pedestrian-friendly streets, increase access to community amenities, and enhance public spaces. A central component of the neighborhood strategy is the development of a Community Empowerment Center, which will house critical supportive services. Major corridors will also be improved with safer intersections, better circulation, and landscaping to ensure safe pathways for pedestrians. Two neighborhood parks will be redeveloped as part of a network of green spaces. Additionally, green infrastructure and active landscapes will be integrated across the neighborhood.

The plan's housing strategy led by development partners, The Community Builders and American Community Developers, aims to create an inclusive, accessible mixed-income neighborhood with diverse, high-quality housing options for Clement Kern Gardens Apartments residents. The strategy calls for replacing the severely distressed development with 841 new mixed-income units, including 151 replacement units, 489 moderate-income units, and 201 market rate and homeownership units.



Pictured: The boundaries of the Greater Corktown Choice Neighborhood.



Pictured: A conceptual rendering of the revitalization efforts throughout the Greater Corktown Area. Housing investments are planned in several strategic locations within Corktown, creating and preserving affordable housing opportunities in a quickly changing neighborhood. The redevelopment of Michigan Central Station will be a further catalyst to neighborhood revitalization.

Complimentary neighborhood investments will connect new housing opportunities to these critical investments.

By building more replacement units than what currently exists, the plan also hopes to serve residents of another privately owned development who are at-risk for potential displacement. Another key goal of the plan will be to connect the area surrounding the target housing and its residents to the economic activity stemming from the revitalized Michigan Central Station.

Lastly, the supportive services strategy works to fulfill the community's vision through improving the health, economic, and education outcomes of Clement Kern Gardens residents. The Community Builders' Community Life case management team and their partners will connect residents with a pipeline of training and employment opportunities. Trained "Resident Champions" will help their peers manage chronic health conditions and facilitate connections to healthy lifestyle supports.

Meanwhile, Detroit Public Schools Community District will help coordinate a cradle-to-career pipeline for children who live at Clement Kern Gardens Apartments. A new early education center will be created alongside the provision of comprehensive parent education programming, while older children will be supported by Academic Success Navigators, as well as tutoring, arts, and enrichment programs.

FORT MYERS, FLORIDA

Housing Authority of the City of Fort Myers & City of Fort Myers Edison Avenue – Dunbar Neighborhood

project OVERVIEW

The Housing Authority of the City of Fort Myers and the City of Fort Myers were awarded a \$30 million FY 2020 Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant for the Edison Avenue-Dunbar neighborhood. Local leaders and community members created a plan to capitalize on recent momentum and accelerate the transformation of these neighborhoods. With the award of a Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant, the Housing Authority and City will make their Transformation Plan a reality by replacing the obsolete Southward Village public housing development. A variety of neighborhood strategies are planned to complement this housing redevelopment, including new business incubation opportunities, the conversion of a nearby junkyard into a hydroponic urban farm, and the restoration of a historic food hall.

key PARTNERS

McCormack Baron Salazar | Urban Strategies, Inc. | City of Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency | Big Brothers and Sisters of the Sun Coast | Boys and Girls Club of Lee County | CareerSource Southwest Florida | City of Fort Myers S.T.A.R.S. Complex | Dr. Piper Center for Social Services | Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida | Family Health Centers of Southwest Florida | Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services | Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida | Lee Health | Next Level Church | School District of Lee County | The Sky Family YMCA | Southwest Florida Community Foundation | Southwest Florida Enterprise Center | Southwest Florida Impact Partners | United Way

committed LEVERAGE (self-reported)

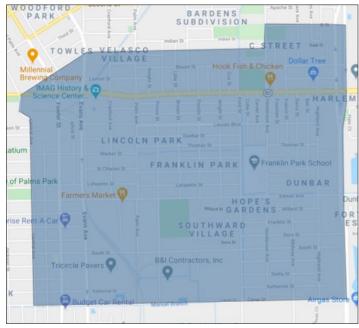
Housing Leverage Committed: \$45.2 million **People Leverage Committed:** \$37.9 million **Neighborhood Leverage Committed:** \$82.8 million

neighborhood BACKGROUND & VISION

The Edison Avenue - Dunbar neighborhood presents an exciting opportunity to transform a community that has suffered from systemic racism and economic segregation but nonetheless has retained its underlying urban fabric and strong historical assets. The neighborhood includes many of the most common indicators of urban blight, such as distressed housing, commercial and residential disinvestment, high rates of unemployment and the absence of a grocery store. Currently, nearly a quarter of households live on less than \$15,000 per year, compared to only 5 percent of Fort Myers households. However, the neighborhood is uniquely positioned to demonstrate how past deficiencies can be overcome with thoughtful partnership building, strategic investments, and physical transformation.

Within the neighborhood boundaries are highly desirable attributes, including a rich history and a historic corridor, recreational amenities, a strong residential feel, proximity to job centers in Downtown Fort Myers and Lee Memorial Health, light industrial areas, and a well-known farmer's market and the historic Farmer's Market Restaurant. Over 40 neighborhood, local, state and federal partners have committed to a neighborhood vision that will bring forth a comprehensive and equitable change to the Edison Avenue - Dunbar neighborhood. This community-driven Transformation Plan seeks to addresses four community-identified goals – increase the availability of quality housing, increase access to services, increase economic opportunity through healthy foods, and enhance connectivity and visibility.

The hallmark of the Edison Avenue - Dunbar Transformation Plan is its significant investment in education and employment infrastructure. Increasing access to services will begin with strategies for education, employment, and health care that are aligned with the needs of residents and will be enhanced by the renewal of two critical, highly valued neighborhood resources — an elementary school and an outdoor recreation complex. Through strategic case management, residents of Southward Village will be able to connect with education and employment resources offered by partners including the United Way, Goodwill Industries, the Lee County Adult and Career Education Center, Southwest Florida Enterprise Center and the Lee County Human and Veteran Services.



Pictured: The boundaries of the Edison Ave. - Dunbar Choice Neighborhood.







Pictured: Top, a conceptual site plan for the new Southward Village. The new site will offer families a variety of amenities, with housing built around a new central park. Bottom, Southward Village today (left) is functionally obsolete and floorplans do not accommodate the needs of families today. A rendering (right) shows modern townhomes replacing Southward Village buildings. New townhomes will be built to market standards, and public housing replacement units will be indistinguishable from the market rate units within the new development.

The Edison Avenue - Dunbar neighborhood is aligned with existing neighborhood revitalization efforts led by partnerships between the City of Fort Myers and community institutions. These joint efforts have created the Southward Village Transformation Plan, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Veronica Shoemaker Boulevard Revitalization Plan, and the Midtown Vision Plan. The three master plans will work together to inform additional strategies envisioned in the Choice Neighborhoods effort. The result will create better access to amenities and services that promote good health, such as access to fresh and healthy food, improved recreational options, and through thoughtful neighborhood design.

Lastly, McCormack Baron Salazar, Inc. and the Southwest Florida Affordable Housing Choice Foundation Inc. will replace 159 of the distressed public housing units on the Southward Village site and construct 40 off-site units in a nearby low-poverty neighborhood less than 2 miles from the Edison Avenue -Dunbar neighborhood. Along with the 199 replacement units, these partners will also develop 70 market-rate units and 196 moderate-income units for a total of 465 new well-designed, energy-efficient, sustainable, and accessible housing units. The three phases of mixed-income, family housing will also include one phase of affordable senior housing to ensure residents may age in place.

FY2020 CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS IMPLEMENTATION GRANT

LEWISTON, MAINE

Lewiston Housing Authority & City of Lewiston Tree Streets Neighborhood

project OVERVIEW

The Lewiston Housing Authority and the City of Lewiston were awarded a \$30 million FY2020 Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant for the Tree Streets neighborhood. Their Transformation Plan, Growing Our Tree Streets, envisions a 25year strategy to grow the Tree Streets Neighborhood from a place in Maine with the highest incidences of childhood lead poisoning and poverty into an environmentally healthy, economically diverse, and ethnically and socially welcoming community. With the award of a Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant, the Lewiston Housing Authority, the City of Lewiston, and their partners will complete a block-by-block replacement and renovation of distressed HUD-housing and centuryold, lead-poisoned tenement buildings. Critical improvements will also be made to community assets and navigators will connect families to effective services so that they can achieve their education, employment, and health goals.

key PARTNERS

Community Concepts, Inc. | Avesta Housing | John T. Gorman Foundation | Bates College | Boston Financial | Coastal Enterprises, Inc. | Community Clinical Services, Inc. | Genesis Community Loan Fund | L.A. Metro Chamber of Commerce | Maine State Housing Authority | Promise Early Education Center | Raise-Op Housing Cooperative | St. Mary's Health System

committed LEVERAGE (self-reported)

Housing Leverage Committed: \$25.6 million **People Leverage Committed:** \$3.9 million

Neighborhood Leverage Committed: \$113.3 million

neighborhood BACKGROUND & VISION

Located a stone's throw from Lewiston's downtown, the 28-block Tree Streets area is largely made up of centuries-old tenement apartments built to house immigrant millworkers and their families. Constructed cheaply in the 1880s through the 1920s and often poorly maintained since, these buildings are a prime reason Tree Streets has the highest incidence of child-hood lead poisoning in Maine. The neighborhood also contains 92 distressed public housing and HUD-assisted housing units, two-thirds of which are acquired tenement buildings.

The community and a wealth of civic and institutional partners have rallied around the neighborhood. As part of a FY 2017 Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant, over 500 people, speaking eight languages, lent their voice to create a new path for Tree Streets. This community process engaged residents, business owners, community organizations, advocates, city agencies, property owners, and more. The Healthy Neighborhoods Planning Council, an original convenor of the planning process and an advocacy organization focused on supporting community participation, will continue to be a key driver in the implementation of the plan. Likewise, the John T. Gorman Foundation is committed as a major investor in the people and civic institutions of Tree Streets.

At the heart of the new plan for Tree Streets, is a commitment to replace and renovate over 1,500 units of neighborhood housing over the next 25 years so that it is safe, healthy, and contains a diverse mix of incomes.





Pictured: The HUD-assisted Maple Knoll property (left) will be replaced at key locations within the Tree Streets neighborhood. The boundaries of the Choice Neighborhood (right) incorporate both Lewiston's downtown and Tree Streets area.





Pictured: A variety of housing typologies will be built throughout the Tree Streets neighborhood to replace all HUD-assisted housing in the area. In residential areas of the neighborhood, vacant or abandoned parcels will be replaced with modern townhomes or small buildings (top) that embody the historic character of surrounding structures while offering families modern amenities. Along the neighborhood's major corridors, elevator buildings with ground floor retail (bottom) will provide new business space in the Tree Streets.

As part of this effort, the Lewiston Housing Authority and their development partner, Avesta Housing, will replace the distressed HUD housing with 185 new units, combining 92 replacement units with moderate-income and market rate units. The new development will knit the Tree Streets Neighborhood into downtown, dramatically improving public spaces and connectivity along the Tree Streets throughfares.

The new housing will complement other key neighborhood investments. The City of Lewiston will create a Housing Opportunity Fund to provide low-cost financing to increase production of new and lead-free rehabilitation of owner-occupied homes in the neighborhood. Neighborhood Wi-Fi will be installed and community policing strategies, including pairing police with metal health counselors, will be expanded. Plans also focus on creating needed community assets, such as a new early education center and a community food center retail space.

Alongside these physical investments, Community Concepts, Inc. will provide case management for target housing residents and strengthen supportive services. To expand early learning opportunities, they and their partners will directly connect families to slots at the new early education center and provide technical assistance to home-based childcare providers. School-age children will be supported by education navigators and have the opportunity to enroll in mentoring and youth leadership programs. Working with the Chamber of Commerce's Strengthen L.A. Initiative, Community Concepts, Inc. will connect families to career-path training and employers. Lastly, a health care navigator will help families access necessary primary care, dental, and behavioral health services.