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## **For Immediate Release**

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### **CHA issues Emergency 30-day Notice at 1230 N. Larrabee Building in Cabrini-Green Development**

*CEO Lewis Jordan: “Families deserve to live in safer, better conditions”*

CHICAGO (May 18, 2010) –With the continued goal of providing safe, quality housing and reintegrating public housing into the fabric of the city, the Chicago Housing Authority is moving to close one of the city’s most notorious still-standing high-rises.

On Tuesday, May 18, CHA issued 30-day notices to residents still living in the Cabrini-Green building at 1230 N. Larrabee Street.

CHA’s Chief Executive Officer Lewis A. Jordan says the decision is spurred by the increasing crime and safety and low occupancy and operational issues in the building.

“First and foremost, our job is to put people in better and safer housing,” Jordan said. “We can no longer tolerate seeing good people live in deteriorating and unsafe conditions. Anyone who has been inside the old Cabrini buildings cannot deny the deteriorating conditions. The families there are at great risk and it is our responsibility to see that those residents are moved from that environment as quickly as possible.”

While a new mixed-income housing development is planned for the property in the future, high vacancy rates combined with the recent increase in major drug arrests has made the emergency closure and relocation of residents necessary. Families need more suitable housing choices until the new development is complete.

All families will be provided the choice to relocate to another CHA-rehabbed property or use a Housing Choice Voucher to rent in the private market. Relocation assistance will be offered to all 31 families still living in the 134 unit high-rise.

Commissioned in 1958, the building was once part of the Cabrini Extensions North and South. The property became notorious in the 1980s and 90s when it became overrun by drug and gang activity. Only three of CHA’s infamous high-rises remain - the rest were replaced by mixed-income communities comprised of market-rate, affordable and public housing residents.

The 1230 N. Larrabee building closure brings the property one step closer to the end of Cabrini’s dark period. “We know the past and while we don’t necessarily like the present conditions, we are looking forward to the future,” Jordan concluded.

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