

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MAYOR DALEY AND CHA ANNOUNCE 12 REHABBED SENIOR BUILDINGS
NOW OPEN FOR MOVE-INS WITHIN 30-45 DAYS**

Mayor Richard M. Daley joined Chicago Housing Authority officials today in announcing that the CHA has nearly completed renovating its 9,500 senior apartments and that 600 apartments in 12 buildings are available for move-ins within 30 to 45 days.

This will be welcome news to low-income Chicago seniors who have faced long waiting lists when they applied for CHA housing in the past.

“My administration is committed to improving the quality of life for the people who deserve our support the most,” Daley said at a news conference at one of the buildings, the Major Lawrence Apartments, 655 W. 65th St. “And few people are more deserving than our senior citizens, especially those of modest means. They should be entitled to comfortable, clean, affordable housing, so they remain in the city, near their friends and family members.”

“The Chicago Housing Authority is committed to providing seniors with excellent housing and a supportive community in which to live. With the renovation almost complete, we are delighted to be able to provide more seniors with the opportunity to live in high-quality affordable housing,” said CHA CEO Sharon Gist Gilliam, the CHA’s chief executive officer.

All 55 of the CHA’s senior apartment buildings have received extensive renovations, including makeovers of every living unit, new heating and cooling systems, exterior improvements and landscaping. Residents also are provided with a variety of social, health and recreational opportunities by the City’s Departments on Aging and Human Services.

Applications will continue to be accepted for all 55 buildings. However many of the other buildings have lengthy waiting lists.

Applicants must be at least 62 years of age, and will pay no more than 30 percent of their income on rent at any of the CHA developments, with a minimum rent of \$50 per month. This is particularly important for seniors on low and fixed incomes, who are overburdened with market rate rents.

“The CHA’s senior buildings enable aging Chicagoans the opportunity to continue to live independently, but close to friends, family and their peers,” said Donna Dixon, CHA Director of Senior Programs. “With senior buildings located in nearly every city neighborhood, seniors can live close to family, places of worship, transportation and shopping.”

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The twelve buildings, which contain a total of 2,600 apartments, are:

Vivian Gordon Harsh Apartments, 4227 S. Oakenwald Ave.
Minnie Riperton Apartments, 4250 S. Princeton Ave.
Alfreda Barnett Duster Apartments, 150 S. Campbell Ave.
Mary Jane Richardson-Jones Apartments, 4930 S. Langley Ave.
Albany Terrace Apartments, 3030 W. 21st Pl.
Apartamentos Las Américas, 1611 S. Racine Ave.
Major Lawrence Apartments, 655 W. 65th St.
Patrick Sullivan Apartments, 1633 W. Madison St
Elizabeth Davis Apartments, 440 N. Drake Ave.
William Jones Apartments, 1447 S. Ashland Ave.
Kenneth Campbell Apartments, 6360 S. Minerva Ave.
Judge Green Apartments, 4030 S. Lake Park Ave.

How to Apply

Applications for occupancy may be picked up at any CHA senior building, as well as at the CHA main offices at 60 E. Van Buren St. Applications may also be obtained by mail by calling the CHA Senior Programs Hotline at (312) 935-2660. Applications are available online at www.thecha.org. Seniors must submit an application form with the desired building and other basic information. Once completed, applications can be mailed back or dropped off at the CHA's main offices at 60 E. Van Buren. Applications will be evaluated and apartments will be assigned based on available units and on the postmark, or receive date.

About the Chicago Housing Authority

The CHA was created by state legislation in 1937 to create and expand affordable housing opportunities for low-income families and seniors. Today, through federal and other resources, the CHA assists approximately 35,000 families who participate in the Housing Choice Voucher program in private units owned by private landlords. In addition, the CHA owns an additional 15,000 units for families in scattered site, traditional public housing or mixed income developments and 9,500 units of housing for senior citizens in 55 senior developments across the city.

About the Plan for Transformation

In 1999, the City of Chicago began a multi-billion dollar, 15-year initiative to renovate or replace the CHA's entire portfolio of 25,000 public housing units throughout the city. Currently, 61 percent of the units have been completed, including the comprehensive renovation of all the seniors developments and all the scattered site units. 80 percent of the portfolio is scheduled to be complete by 2009. The Plan is a collaboration of the CHA, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the City of Chicago and its many agencies, area businesses and non-profit organizations.

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