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CHA BOARD PAVES WAY FOR REHABILITATION WORK AT BRIDGEPORT HOMES AND TWO SENIOR PROPERTIES

Services to residents key part of agenda
June 17, 2003

Continuing the progress already made through the Plan for Transformation, the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) Board of Commissioners has approved contracts for general rehabilitation work at the Bridgeport Homes and two senior properties, the Washington Park Apartments and the Langley Apartments.

The \$11.6 million rehab effort at the Bridgeport Homes, located on the city's southwest side, focuses on 13, two-story buildings and will include new windows, appliances, furnaces, plumbing, roofs and upgrading of ADA units. Some exterior work, such as new sidewalks, parking lot repairs, lighting and fencing is also part of the overall work.

At the Washington Park Apartments and the Langley Apartments, senior properties on the city's south side, the combined \$12 million rehab projects will include renovation of 266 units and the common areas. Along with some façade repairs, the kitchens, bathrooms, floor tiles and new appliances will be part of the new look – and ADA compliant units will be added.

“The CHA is committed to progress -- and that means, day-by-day, week-by-week, month-by-month improvements to the basic quality of life for CHA residents,” said CHA CEO Terry Peterson, who added that the CHA is more than half-way done rehabbing senior and scattered site units – just four years into the Plan.

With an eye toward providing the help some residents need to succeed, the Board has also approved extension of the Employability Plus Program at the ABLA family development on the city's near west side. Part of the ABLA community since 1985, the program is designed to help residents receive either a GED or a high school diploma – and finds opportunities for youth to gain work experience.

The Board also accepted a grant that will allow the CHA to continue its Summer Food Program. Funded through a grant from the Illinois State Board of Education, some 13,000 breakfasts and some 15,000 lunches will be served each day from June 25th through August 30th, as part of the effort to ensure that children living in CHA developments get nutritional help for their proper

physical development.