



News Release

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AMHERST CELEBRATES REHABILITATED AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMUNITY

Amherst, Virginia – On June 22, Community Housing Partners (CHP) hosted a dedication ceremony at the Rutledge Hill Apartments community center to celebrate the grand re-opening of Rutledge Hill, a newly-refurbished, affordable multifamily housing community located in Amherst.

Originally constructed in 1982, the Rutledge Hill Apartments comprise 48 one, two, and three-bedroom units, which were acquired and rehabilitated by CHP to preserve this affordable housing stock for the community and residents of Amherst.

In keeping with CHP's mission to create affordable, green, sustainable housing opportunities and services, the extensive renovations of the existing property included the use of environmentally-responsible building practices and design features, earning Rutledge Hill an Earth Craft™ Multifamily Renovation certification.

"CHP doesn't just talk the talk; they walk the walk when it comes to environmental practices," Said Deborah Cheslow, Regional Technical Manager with Earth Craft Virginia.

"Green" elements incorporated into the project include energy-efficient mechanical systems, appliances, and lighting; EnergyStar windows and refrigerators; low-VOC carpets and finishes; construction site waste recycling of cardboard, metals, and old appliances; and native landscaping. During the year-long rehab project, CHP also installed all-new low-flow bathroom fixtures, kitchen cabinets, flooring, and roofing; and built a new community room.



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Byron Waters, Housing Program Director with USDA – Rural Development, remarked during the ceremony that, “CHP has a long history of providing safe, attractive affordable housing in the region. Rutledge Hills is just one more example of a job well-done. USDA – Rural Development looks forward to working with CHP on many projects in the future.”

Added Cara Wallo, Tax Credit Allocation Officer with Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA), “We are fortunate to have organizations like CHP out there which create positive environments for individuals and families to live in.”

About Community Housing Partners:

Community Housing Partners (CHP) is a 501(c)(3) Community Development Corporation established in 1975 to serve the needs of low-income and low-wealth individuals in the southeast. Our mission is to create affordable, green, sustainable housing opportunities and services for the people and communities we serve.

CHP’s activities include sustainable development, architectural design, construction, energy services, homeownership, housing management, and resident and youth services. These efforts, in concert with public and private partnerships, enable us to create and sustain communities of choice that are environmentally friendly, economical to operate, attractive, well-maintained, and durable for the long term.

Since its inception, CHP has expanded its service area to encompass 3 states; assisted or produced more than 2,000 single-family houses; built a multi-family housing inventory of over 4,700 units; and assisted more than 189,500 individuals with their economic, housing, and social needs. Our clients include elderly people, women and children in transition, formerly-homeless people, single female heads-of-household, the chronically mentally ill, at-risk youth and other families and individuals of low-income and low-wealth.

CHP is a chartered member of NeighborWorks® America, and a member of both the Housing Partnership Network and the Federation of Appalachian Housing Enterprises. For more information about CHP, visit www.communityhousingpartners.org.

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