

HERITAGE VIEW OPENING CELEBRATION

CMHA dedicates the first phase of Heritage View Homes

Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority's (CMHA) Board of Commissioners, executive staff, employees, and residents celebrated the grand opening of Heritage View Homes, formally known as Garden Valley, on Wednesday, November 10, 2010. More than 200 people came out to the ribbon cutting ceremony to dedicate the first phase of Heritage View Homes, a revitalized housing development of 81 units, located in Cleveland's East 70th and Kinsman Avenue area neighborhood.

"This is a very exciting time for CMHA and Heritage View residents," said George Phillips-Olivier, chief executive officer of CMHA. "We are commemorating a new beginning of housing in the area and recreating the fabric of the community."

Heritage View Homes replaced Garden Valley Estates, which was built between 1959 and 1971 and was in serious need of revitalization. The housing stock was obsolete and dilapidated and seriously affected by poor original design, over use, high density, and lack of a defined system of streets and blocks. The design had contributed to a severe deterioration of the dwelling units and the common entry ways were no longer viable in a public housing atmosphere. Working with partners such as Burton Bell Carr Development, Inc., Pennrose Properties, Ralph A. Falbo, Inc., Ohio Equity Fund for Housing Limited Partnership, and Western Reserve Revitalization and Management Company, Inc., CMHA began to rebuild the development over the last two years and integrate it into the surrounding neighborhood. The Heritage View Homes Development is part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

"We are proud to partner with CMHA on this development and grateful for the opportunity to revitalize a place like Heritage View Homes," said Michael Polite, President of Ralph A. Falbo Development, Inc. "Our principle objective is to support community-based revitalization and build sustainable neighborhoods for families."

The development consists of 81 public housing units in 20 primarily two story townhouse structures, ranging from four to seven units. Each of the homes are accessible with their own entrance, separate utilities, meters and heating and cooling systems. In addition, the units meet Enterprise Green Criteria, which includes Energy Star appliances.

"The Heritage View Homes Development is an unmistakable example of the role CMHA has in Cleveland's advancement and progress in making the neighborhood better for the residents of Cuyahoga County," said Ronald V. Johnson, Jr., chairman of CMHA's Board of Commissioners.