



Montgomery Housing Partnership

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Montgomery Housing Partnership Brings Business Community Together to Reflect on 20 Years of Providing Affordable Housing in Montgomery County

Event Raises \$175,000 for MHP's Affordable Housing Development and Supportive Services for Low-and Moderate-Income Residents

(*Silver Spring, MD – March 28, 2010*) – Montgomery Housing Partnership (MHP) celebrated its 20th year of providing affordable housing in Montgomery County March 18, with 500 supporters, business leaders, and affordable housing advocates. The event, *MHP Is Going Platinum*, raised \$175,000 that will go directly toward the private nonprofit's ongoing efforts to develop, acquire, and rehabilitate affordable apartments and homes for low- and moderate-income families in the county.

Over the past 20 years, MHP has played a critical role in finding housing solutions for working families. Since 1989, it has been able to:

- Invest more than \$100 million in Montgomery County's urban, rural, and suburban neighborhoods;
- Develop, renovate, own and manage 1,164 apartments and homes, using state-of-the-art methods, including green and healthy building techniques;
- Assist families of modest means achieve their dream of home ownership;
- Rehabilitate homes in distressed neighborhoods; and conduct studies on safety, recycling and sustainability, and pest control through the community revitalization program; and
- Develop and manage Community Life Programs that have provided preschool education, afterschool homework tutoring, summer enrichment camps, and computer training for students and families.

Held at the Bolger Center in Potomac, MD, the 20th Anniversary gathering was a celebration of MHP's ability to bring together the business partners needed to build its 23 successful communities and sustainable neighborhoods, and featured moving tributes from current and former residents. U.S. Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD) served as the keynote speaker.

"MHP has spent 20 years helping to make decent, affordable housing close to jobs, schools and shopping a reality for so many low- and moderate-income families in Montgomery County," remarked Sen. Cardin. "Communities with close proximity to transit and retail, like Rockville, Takoma Park and Silver Spring, make it possible for thousands to access jobs and educational opportunities while removing cars from our roads and pollution from our air. Through their innovative stewardship, MHP has transformed neighborhoods into attractive and desirable affordable communities."

MHP President Robert Goldman thanked the business leaders who had partnered on previous developments, and told them that MHP would need their continued engagement to reach its next milestone since the Montgomery County Planning Board has estimated there will be a shortage of 62,000 units of affordable housing in Montgomery County by 2030.

"MHP's business model of developing mixed-income affordable housing communities has been very successful for working families in the county. While we are thrilled to have served thousands of families over the years – including the 1,200 currently living in our communities – the challenge for the next 20 years is 62,000 families,"

(more)

said Goldman. “These families will include teachers, nurses, librarians, retail clerks and construction workers who will be serving us in this county, but who will not be able to afford to live here. These are families that may be living in overcrowded situations, commuting long distances to work, and potentially living in horrible conditions.”

MHP also presented its first Community Leadership Award to David Reznick, co-Founder and Chairman of the Board of Reznick Group. A dedicated philanthropist, Reznick is nationally recognized as an expert in the field of affordable housing finance, and his national firm is based in Montgomery County.

“David Reznick is a champion of affordable housing here in Montgomery County and nationally is a leader in affordable housing finance issues,” said Stacy Plotkin Silber, chair of the MHP Board and a partner at Holland & Knight LLP. “We thank him for the positive example he has set over his stellar 40-year career in business, and we appreciate his counsel.”

Television journalist Bruce Johnson from WUSA-9 served as master of ceremonies. Catherine Leggett, Senior Vice President of ICMA Retirement Corporation, and Tom Bozzuto, CEO of The Bozzuto Group, co-chaired the 20th Anniversary event.

Sponsors included: Reznick Group; Chevy Chase Bank, a division of Capital One, N.A.; The Bozzuto Group; Citi; Enterprise; PNC Bank; Adventist Healthcare; Bank of America; BB& T; The CT Group; Elm Street Development; Holland & Knight LLP; and Trammell Crow Residential.

To learn more about MHP and how to get involved, please call 301-622-2400 or email info@mhpartners.org. Stay connected with MHP on [Facebook](#) and on Twitter [@mhpartners](#).

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About MHP

Montgomery Housing Partnership is a private, nonprofit housing developer based in Montgomery County, Maryland. It is the largest nonprofit housing organization in the County, and has developed 1,164 units of affordable apartments and homes at 23 sites. MHP is a chartered member of NeighborWorks[®] America. For more information, visit www.MHPartners.org.