



NEWS FROM THE CHA



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO :

As I celebrate my first six months at CHA, I am delighted to share with you the latest accomplishments of CHA. Although it has been a difficult year, through it all, the Chicago Housing Authority has continued to move forward.

We have continued to provide housing to 64,000 residents and voucher holders. We have continued to increase housing choices for low-income families. And we have continued to build strong, vibrant communities throughout Chicago.

All the while working tirelessly to ensure safety for our residents and staff

As you read the accomplishments below, you'd never know we were in the midst of a pandemic. Through everything, CHA has completed multiple projects and achieved many goals. It is a testament to our Board, our team and our collective dedication to our mission.

While the opportunities to meet many of you have been scarce, I look forward to the future when we can celebrate these milestones together.

Be Safe. Be Well.

Tracey Scott

Chief Executive Officer



CHA JOINS MAYOR LIGHTFOOT FOR GRAND OPENING OF MONTCLARE SENIOR RESIDENCES OF CALUMET HEIGHTS

Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) CEO Tracey Scott joined Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot, Ald. Michelle A Harris (8th Ward), Sen. Elgie Sims (17th District) and MR Properties, LLC, for the grand opening of the Montclare Senior Residences of Calumet Heights in late September.

The 134-unit, seven-story new construction provides mixed-income housing and first-class amenities for independent seniors 62 years of age and older on the City's far South Side.

"The investment in housing means that Chicago seniors are able to remain in the community of their choice," CEO Scott said. "For CHA, we are fulfilling our mission of keeping housing affordable. Ultimately, we are here to invest not just in bricks and mortar, but to invest in people. That is our mission."

The new Montclare Senior Residences of Calumet Heights consist of 101 one-bedroom and 33 two-bedroom units. The CHA's Property Rental Assistance (PRA) program, which works to increase high-quality, affordable housing opportunities in healthy and revitalizing neighborhoods throughout the City of Chicago, has provided subsidies for 34 of the one-bedroom units to support tenants from CHA waitlists.

[Read more here](#)

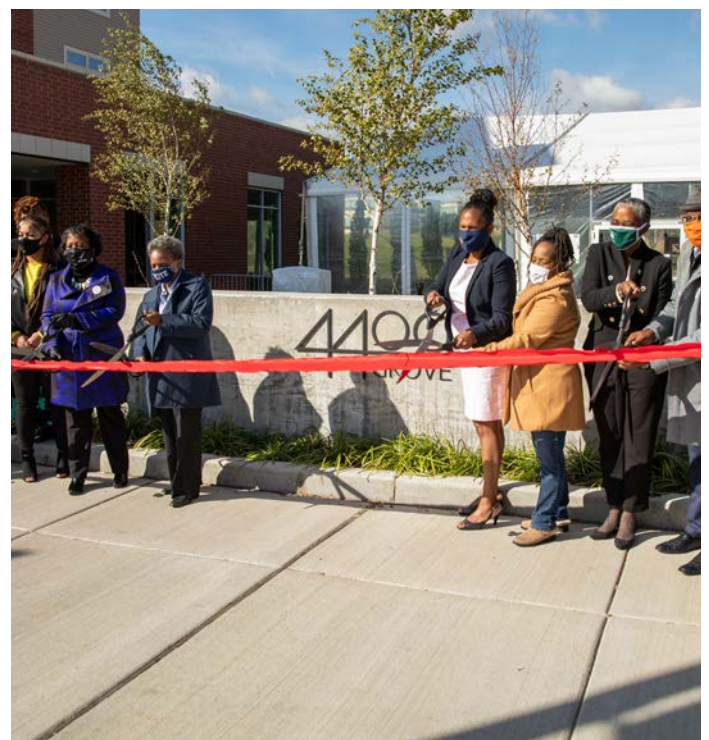
CHA JOINS MAYOR LIGHTFOOT FOR GRAND OPENING OF 4400 GROVE MIXED-INCOME COMMUNITY

CEO Scott joined Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot, Ald. Sophia King (4th Ward), The Michaels Organization and Brinshore Development on Oct. 1 to formally open the new 4400 Grove apartment complex on the City's South Side.

The newly constructed, \$37 million 4400 Grove community, built on CHA owned-land that was part of the former Washington Park Public Housing complex, offers 84 contemporary, high-quality apartments and nearly 18,000 square feet of ground-floor retail and commercial space in the heart of Bronzeville.

"4400 Grove is the continuation of a vision that began six years ago with the development of Shops and Lofts, which redefined this stretch of Cottage Grove. It is continuing a transformative impact on the neighborhood and again bringing together the two entities – retail and residential – that are essential components in a successful vibrant community," CEO Scott said. "CHA's mission of using stable housing as a catalyst to help communities thrive has again been brought to life here at 4400 Grove."

[Read more here](#)





CHA AND OPERATION WARM DISTRIBUTE 7,500 COATS TO RESIDENTS AT COVID-SAFE EVENT

The 2020 event looked a little different due to COVID-19, but CHA and Operation Warm nevertheless partnered for the 13th consecutive year, distributing 7,500 new winter coats over four days in late October to the children of pre-registered families living in public housing and who participate in the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program at Credit Union 1 Arena.

Instead of the typical one-day, four-hour event, coats were distributed this year over four, nine-hour days, thanks largely to the help of sponsors and Team CHA. The distribution to pre-registered public housing residents and HCV participants ended Saturday.

CHA CEO Scott helped hand out coats.

“I have an immense amount of gratitude for the 280 CHA employees and staff from our FamilyWorks agencies who volunteered for one or multiple shifts during our 2020 Operation Warm event,” said Kristen Hamer, Director of Corporate and External Partnerships. “It was important that we figured out a way to safely distribute coats, especially this year, and we pulled it off thanks to the incredible support of Team CHA.”

[Read more here](#)



GROUNDBREAKING AT RAUNER FAMILY VETERAN STUDIOS BY A SAFE HAVEN

The rain couldn't dampen the spirit at the groundbreaking of the Rauner Family Veteran Studios by A Safe Haven in late October.

CHA partnered with City of Chicago and HUD to provide long-term rental subsidy for 75 of 90 veteran units at the forthcoming community. CHA has proudly assisted more than 1,100 veterans and their families using Veteran's Assistance Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers.

[Watch the video here](#)

OS 20 SYMPOSIUM WEEK

11TH ANNUAL OWNER'S SYMPOSIUM IS A SUCCESS

More than 1,000 property owners, managers, brokers, investors and other real estate professionals took part in a week of learning, networking and sharing best practices at the Chicago Housing Authority's first-ever virtual Owner Symposium in late October.

The Owner Symposium, which celebrated its 11th year providing real estate professionals with education and resources to improve their businesses and support affordable housing opportunities throughout Chicago, has historically been an in-person, all-day event.

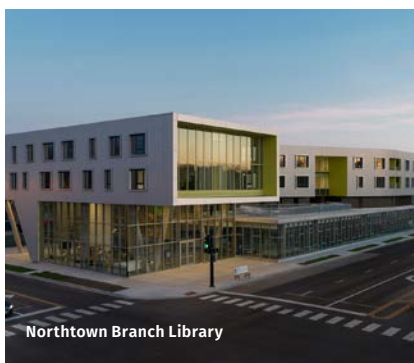
Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot kicked things off with a video message, welcoming attendees to the event and thanking housing providers for the life-saving services they provide to thousands of Chicago families.

In the opening session, CEO Scott also thanked property owners across Chicago.

Cheryl Burns, CHA's Chief HCV Officer, said this year's event was all about turning limitations into innovations.

"Our partnership with property owners is critical to creating healthy, vibrant communities and an improved quality of life for all of our families," Burns said. "By continuing to bring together and educate real estate professionals on trends in the rental housing market and other vital issues, we are able to support the stability of many small businesses which translates to the long-term success of our Housing Choice Voucher families."

[Read more here](#)



CHA PROJECTS WIN PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS

Four CHA projects won prestigious design awards this fall.

Independence Branch Library and Apartments in Irving Park and Northtown Branch Library and Apartments in West Ridge won 2020 Library Building Awards from the American Institute of Architects and American Library Association. CHA shares the award with partners City of Chicago, Chicago Public Library and Evergreen Real Estate Group. [Read more here](#)

Lathrop, one of the first public housing developments in the nation, is now a scenic mixed-income community on the North Side. [Watch a video for Lathrop here](#)

CHA provides rental assistance for each of the 148 units at The Mark Twain, one of the largest remaining single room occupancy (SRO) affordable housing developments on Chicago's Near North Side. [Watch a video for The Mark Twain here](#)

[See more coverage here](#)



TEAM CHA ASSEMBLES RESIDENT CARE PACKAGES

In November, Team CHA packed up Resident Care Packages for residents residing in traditional, senior and scattered site properties. The care packages included hand sanitizer, disinfectant spray, cloth masks, gloves, a CHA logo bag and an encouraging message from our CEO.

[Watch video here](#)



YOUNG CHA FILMMAKERS THRIVE

The young filmmakers of the award-winning CHA/DePaul Documentary Film Program for Girls had their films accepted into the Gene Siskel Film Center's Black Harvest Film Festival in November.

The program, established in 2016, teaches young female CHA residents how to make documentaries. It is made possible through CHA's non-profit affiliate, Springboard to Success (S2S).

The quality of work was especially impressive in 2020 considering much of the filmmaking and editing was conducted during a pandemic. The films were created remotely and while social distancing.

[Read Chicago Tribune columnist Mary Schmich's column on the program here](#)