



FOUNTAIN VIEW APARTMENTS

Written by Administrator

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North Lawndale Community News

Alderman Sharon Denise Dixon, Pastor Wayne Gordon, City of Chicago-DOH Commissioner Ellen Sahli and Chicago Housing Authority's CEO Lewis A. Jordan, and Pastor Wayne Gordon of Lawndale Community Church and others during the ribbon cutting ceremony

On Wednesday, June 10th community leaders and residents gathered in the park area across from Herzl Elementary School on Douglas and Independence Blvd. to announce the grand opening of the Fountain View Apartments across the street, to celebrate the completion of a 10 million dollar project that provides 45 quality rental units to the North Lawndale Community.

"Fountain View is a community where forty-five families live and are able to raise their families here with nice new amenities. They have new everything including central air conditioning. They also have the opportunity to go to school right across the street," said Kim Jackson, Executive Director of LCDC. "It's a great opportunity as our community is growing and expanding and from now we'll just see where God takes us with it."

Community housing has been a great concern in the North Lawndale community over the past few years, especially in regards to the many vacant and boarded up buildings alongside Douglas and Independence Blvd. Last year, tenants residing in properties owned by Holsten management, just one block east, were unhappy about poor living conditions, something that the community hopes will continue to change now that LCDC and others have come along and helped to upgrade the community with projects like the Fountain View Apartments.

The Fountain View project has been in effect since 2004, when the Chicago Housing Authority selected LCDC (Lawndale Christian Development Corporation) to develop Fountain View. Up until that point it had been a 53 unit property that had been vacant for 10 years and home to much illegal activity for a lot of that time.

"That building has seen everything from drug sales to low key prostitution," said Sally Davies, a Lawndale and Douglas Blvd. resident. "It's good to see it improved and fixed up now so hopefully some families can make the neighborhood a little better, a little more family oriented, something we have definitely been missing around these parts."

Fountain View is filled to 100% capacity. Two bedroom apartments are renting for about \$700 per month. Included among the 45 apartments are 21 two-bedroom units, 18 three-bedroom units and 6 four-bedroom units. In keeping with HUD's section 504 requirements, nine of the units on

the ground and first floor levels are accessible and adaptable for persons with disabilities. A one-story lift provides accessible access to the first floor. Every apartment has been wired for cable television and high-speed Internet access. Each of the 45 families will also receive a free computer from One Economy and free training in LCDC's computer center. Michelle Morton was on hand to make the presentation for One Economy.

Minister Tammie Simms labeled as the star resident, found out about the Fountain View Apartments through meeting Ms. Jackson serving as "Principal for A day" at Herzl School. This was at a time "when I desperately needed an apartment," Min. Simms. She was paying \$600 previously and now pays \$700 for two bedrooms.

Community residents, city officials, and invited were allowed to view the last model apartment which was already rented out and had to be readied for its new tenants after this final showing. The apartments are really nice. They have a great view," said Ms. Nance an endearing North Lawndale resident. Ms. Ida Walker, another lifelong community resident who also works as a leasing agent at LCDC's resident management office was on hand for the model apartment tour after the ribbon cutting ceremony.

Alderwoman Sharon Denise Dixon, Pastor Wayne Gordon, City of Chicago-DOH Commissioner Ellen Sahli and Chicago Housing Authority's CEO Lewis A. Jordan, and Pastor Wayne Gordon of Lawndale Community Church, were part of the ribbon cutting party in front of the building.

LCDC is also working on another multi-unit project at the end of the block just east of the Fountain View Apartments. If you are interested in getting in a bid on one of these newly remodeled units, I'd say put your bid in early. Lawndale Christian Development has gained tremendous expertise and customer satisfaction from their tenants, and their clients who have bought homes. Their apartments are very nice and very affordable. For more information call 773 762-8889.