

**The Rutland Housing Authority
Annual Report to the Citizens of the City of Rutland
2017**

The Rutland Housing Authority (RHA) was created over 57 years ago to address “a shortage of safe and sanitary dwelling accommodations in the City of Rutland available to persons of low income at rentals they can afford” (City of Rutland, Board of Alderman, Resolution dated May 22, 1963). Funded under the programs of the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, RHA built and managed three properties, two for the elderly and non-elderly disabled at Templewood Court and Sheldon Towers (134 units) and one for families at the old Forest Park site (75 units) for a total of 209 apartments.

In 2009, the RHA embarked on an initiative to completely redevelop the obsolete Forest Park project with new buildings and infrastructure. Phase one was completed in 2011 and phase two in 2013. The RHA continues to work with our development partner, Housing Vermont, to complete the third and final phase, which is scheduled to open in October of 2018. Utilizing a variety of private, local, state and federal funding, this 78-unit mixed income neighborhood has and will continue to have a profound impact on the Rutland Southwest Neighborhood and the City at large. What was once a tired, isolated and unwelcoming “project” is now a vibrant neighborhood that has been reintegrated back into the streetscape. Additionally, the initiative has brought millions of dollars into the local economy.

The RHA currently administers 219 Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers which enables very low-income families to secure high quality rental units from local landlords. By the end of 2018 our programs will provide affordable housing to over 485 families including many with children, elders and people with disabilities.

The RHA is evaluated annually by the Department of Housing and Urban Development and this year has been rated as a High Performer (highest rating) under HUD’s assessment systems for both the Public Housing and the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher programs.

Recognized for its commitment to service-enriched housing, the RHA provides resident service coordination at its housing sites. Additionally, we serve as the Designated Regional Housing Organization for the Support and Services at Home (SASH) Program. This interagency system for care management assists Medicare-eligible participants with healthy aging-in-place. Services are provided at a number of housing sites and communities throughout the county. Over 500 individuals benefit from these services which have proven to increase quality of life while decreasing Medicare costs.

We would like to express our appreciation for the support that the Authority has received from all City Departments, the Rutland Redevelopment Authority and the many agencies that have partnered with us to provide affordable, service-enriched, safe and high quality housing to the citizens of Rutland City.

As always we welcome your comments or suggestions. Please contact the Rutland Housing Authority at 775-2926, or to learn more about our programs and services, check us out at www.rhvt.org.

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