



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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W.H. White House Open House and Renovation Celebration

Boyne City, MI -

Northern Homes Community Development Corporation has successfully renovated the W. H. White House in downtown Boyne City and completed their 200th affordable housing unit. An open house and celebration of this noteworthy accomplishment will be held at the William H. White House at 417 Boyne Avenue, Boyne City on Wednesday, October 26, 2016 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Northern Homes Community Development Corporation renovated the building to create four affordable apartments for adults age 55 or older.

William H. White was a business leader in the founding days of Boyne City and started many local businesses including the White Lumber Company, Boyne City Railroad and Wolverine Dilworth Hotel. The house at 417 Boyne Avenue was built in 1903 as Mr. White's residence. However, in the past decade the building had fallen into disrepair and became abandoned in 2008.

Through collaboration with the City of Boyne City, Boyne City Main Street, Charlevoix County Land Bank, Chemical Bank, Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis, Michigan State Housing Development Authority and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, the home has been restored to create an affordable downtown residential opportunity for community residents.

Jane MacKenzie, NHCDC's Executive Director says, "This home was an eyesore located on a gateway to downtown Boyne City. There were some discussions of tearing the house down. Northern Homes saw an opportunity to preserve a part of Boyne City's history and create affordable apartments for adults. I am excited about how well the rehab turned out and want to give the community an opportunity to see what a high quality affordable housing project can look like."

The renovation project was designed to include many "green" features including energy star lighting, doors, windows and appliances. A higher quality insulation package was used which allowed the use of mini split heat pump systems for heating and air conditioning. In addition Energy Recovery Ventilators, ERV, were installed in each apartment. Open grid pavers were used on over 25% of the paved area to control storm water runoff.

The W.H. White House includes 3 one-bedroom apartments and 1 two-bedroom apartment for adults age 55 or older. The apartments are rent restricted with current rents set at \$510-\$540 for the one bedroom apartments and \$700 for the two bedroom apartment with all utilities included. The apartments are also income restricted. The maximum income for a one-person household is \$34,000. For a two person household it is \$38,850. Northern Homes is accepting applications for the apartments.

To celebrate the renovation of the W.H. White House the descendants of the White family are sponsoring historic photos of the family, the family industries in Boyne City and historic photos of Boyne City from around the time the home was built. The photos will be placed in the foyer and hallway of the W.H. White House.

Northern Homes is inviting the public to attend an Open House and Celebration on Wednesday, October 26, 2016 at 4:00-6:00 pm at 417 Boyne Avenue, Boyne City, Michigan.

[photos of the project follow]



1903 Postcard of W.H. White House, courtesy of Jack Hobey



Photo of W. H. White House taken in 2015



Photo taken October 20, 2016

Northern Homes Community Development Corporation is a non-profit whose mission is to create and preserve affordable housing opportunities for Northern Michigan residents through education, development and partnering with local communities.

Northern Homes Community Development Corporation

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