



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Dr. Imani Woody
Phone: 202.607.7970
Email: drimani@maryshouse.org

Mary's House for Older Adults Wins \$1.2 Million in D.C. Financing

Washington, D.C., June 21, 2018 – The board of directors of Mary's House for Older Adults is delighted to announce the DC Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has awarded the nonprofit \$1.2 million in capital subsidies along with a sizable tax credit package to be used to produce 15 residential units, welcoming to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/same-gender loving (LGBTQ/SGL) seniors. Mary's House for Older Adults has partnered with developer Northern Real Estate Urban Ventures, LLC, to build the project. The Office of DC Mayor Muriel Bowser announced the city's \$103 million investment in affordable housing last week <https://dhcd.dc.gov/release/mayor-bowser-announces-2-million-fund-help-non-profit-developers-finance-affordable-housing>.

“This will really open doors for us to raise the additional funds to break ground on our project by April 2019,” said Dr. Imani Woody, founder and CEO of Mary's House. The total cost of the southeast Washington Ward 7 project will be approximately 4.4 million. Mary's House for Older Adults will need to execute a capital campaign to raise the additional \$400,000.00 needed for pre-development costs such as architectural plans, geotechnical reports and building permits.

“Mary's House is a great group of people, and I really believe in their mission to create this housing,” said Gina Merritt, principal of Northern Real Estate Urban Ventures. She, like Dr. Woody, believes this award from DHCD will pave the way for new investors to come on board.

Mary's House for Older Adults is a part of the National LGBT Elder Housing Initiative, created in 2015 to address the LGBTQ/SGL seniors housing crisis. It will be the first residence of its kind in Washington, D.C., and one of several in the United States that will target affordable housing for LGBTQ/SGL older adults. Mary's House for Older Adults will also partner with Seabury Resources for Aging who will provide crucial supportive services. As our LGBTQ/SGL elders age, their needs for a more shared communal living environment will be met by Mary's House for Older Adults and similar living environments.

More information about Mary's House for Older Adults, including ways to donate can be found at www.maryshousedc.org ; additional information about Northern Real Estate Urban Ventures and Seabury Resources for Aging is available at www.nreuv.com and <https://www.seaburyresources.org/> , respectively.

#