



PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Nikki Thomas

Phone: (304) 939-5726

Email: nthomas@ccdcwv.com

Cornerstone Community Development Corporation announces the Prichard Hotel Building Renovation Project

Huntington, W.Va. Cornerstone Community Development Corporation, alongside more than twenty partners consisting of individuals, community partners, and state and federal agencies, is proud to announce the launch of the Prichard Hotel Building Renovation Project. The development effort will facilitate the revitalization of the Prichard Hotel Building in Downtown Huntington into an affordable housing location for seniors aged 55 and older.

“When we embarked on this incredible journey over five years ago to develop the Prichard Hotel, no one had any idea of how this could be done. We all had faith in God mixed in with tenacity and commitment,” said Nikki Thomas, President, Cornerstone Community Development Corporation. “Giving up even through the down times was never a possibility.”

With finalized funding of over \$50 million, this renovation project will allow the building to be brought back to life and begin a new legacy to address a critical need in the community by serving as a national model for safe, revitalized, and affordable housing for seniors. This project involves remediation and cleanup of environmental issues, major construction consisting of preservation, restoration, and modernization. This project is a complex and intricate compilation of more than 11 funding sources merging to compile an executable capital stack that will create more than 200 jobs with multiple local companies during the construction phases.

West Virginia Senator Bob Plymale has worked with Cornerstone Community Development from the beginning of this project to help bring in partners throughout the region. Partners Mountain Health, Marshall University, and Marshall Health will utilize space in the Prichard building to create an innovative Geriatric Center for Excellence. “This project has been an ongoing effort with many leading organizations in our region and our state. Together, they are bringing a large number of great jobs and sustained economic development to the area through all phases of this project,” said Plymale.

The injection of resources being brought to the community will provide economic stimulus to promote the revitalization of downtown by standing as one of the largest housing redevelopment projects in the region. Plans call for the first two floors to provide health care services and additional community resources with the rest of the building providing 108 residential living spaces.

Hospice of Huntington plans to occupy space on the first floor to facilitate a medical day center for aging adults in conjunction with a new facility the organization is currently developing. "We are excited to see the transformation of this historic landmark building develop into a hub for excellent senior living and services," said Melanie Hall, President and CEO of Hospice of Huntington.

The WVSU Metro Area Agency on Aging will house a resource and referral space in the building to create accessible resources to seniors and persons with disabilities who may have otherwise been unable to utilize this help. When asked about the project, executive director Brenda Landers commented, "We assist and encourage older adults to lead active and healthy lives in dignity and in full enjoyment of their rights and independence."

Christ Temple Church played a large part in coordinating and supporting this renovation project, and Pastor Chuck Lawrence said, "Our city is an exceptional community, and we are so grateful to have a part in adding the extraordinary value and advantage this project will bring."

Randy Saunders, Vice President of Cornerstone Community Development Corporation said, "This area is filled with amazing people and amazing opportunities. I hope this project serves as a beacon of hope for this community. A reminder that nothing is too far gone. That no one is without hope. Take off the lens of negativity and see what can be overcome."

Cornerstone Community Development Corporation would like to extend their immense gratitude and profound appreciation for the leadership team and partners of this project, including:

- Winterwood, Inc.
- Pastor Chuck Lawrence & Jamie Lawrence of Christ Temple Church
- Roger Hughes, Founder of Hughes Architecture
- Jeff Speaks, President of JBS Communications
- Historic Tax Credit Consultant Mike Gioulis
- Senator Shelly Moore- Capito
- City of Huntington Mayor Steve Williams
- City of Huntington Manager Cathy Burns and CDBG Grant Funding
- George Carico, Manager - Brownfields Assistance Center at Marshall University
- Bob Bennett Project Manager of Bosse Construction
- West Virginia Senator Bob Plymale
- Beth "Buffy" Hammers, CEO, Marshall Health
- Marshall University President Brad Smith
- Mountain Health Network's CEO Dr. Kevin Yingling
- Dave Campbell, Executive Director – Healthcare Innovation, Mountain Health Network
- Hospice of Huntington's Melanie Hall
- James C. Seiffert & Jack Seiffert
- Stites & Harbison
- David Leon, Partner - Nelson Mullins
- West Virginia Housing Development Fund
- Metro Area Agency on Aging
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Opportunity Appalachia
- Downtown Appalachia
- West Virginia State Historic Preservation Office
- U.S. National Park Service

- TTA
- Architectural Planning and Design
- Nixon and Peabody
- Stonehenge Capital