

Lafayette School Senior Apartments Ribbon Cutting to be Held August 31st

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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PORTSMOUTH – On Monday August 31st at 4:00 p.m. the Portsmouth Housing Authority and the City of Portsmouth will hold a ribbon cutting and open house at the recently completed Lafayette School Senior Apartments at 100 Lafayette Road in Portsmouth. The public is invited to attend and the building will be available for tours after the ribbon cutting.

The Portsmouth Housing Authority and the City have been working in partnership to redevelop the former Lafayette School building into 10 apartments for seniors. All of the apartments will be rented to seniors age 62 or over who earn less than 60% of Median Family Income. In October 2008, the City and the Lafayette School Limited Partnership, the entity established by the Portsmouth Housing Authority to develop the project, entered into a 98-year lease for the use of the Lafayette School Building, which has been vacant since 1998.

The \$2.6 million project cost was and was funded in part with Low Income Housing Tax Credits as well as federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Federal Home Loan Bank funds. The Northern New England Housing Investment fund served as the developer consultant and tax-credit equity investor for the project; Ricci Construction of Portsmouth was the general contractor for the project.

Design plans for the renovation of the former Lafayette School building were undertaken in close consultation with the New Hampshire Division of Historic Resources. Among the original building features to be preserved, are the building exterior, roof-top World War II era air raid siren and interior stair wells.

In addition to the redevelopment of the former school building, the City is currently undertaking improvements at the adjacent park. This work will include resurfacing, seal-coating and striping the basketball court and installing new basketball rims and boards.