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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR INFORMATION CALL

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December 4, 2017

Ald. Michael J. Murphy  
(414) 286-3763

## VA grounds to host special Housing Trust Fund news event

*Old Main building will be backdrop for Wednesday (December 6) briefing about  
\$600,000 awarded for special housing projects*

The rehabilitation of **The Milwaukee Soldiers Home** and five other key projects recently approved by the Housing Trust Fund Advisory Board and the Milwaukee Common Council will be announced on **Wednesday (December 6)** during a special **1 p.m.** news event in front of the historic Old Main building on the grounds of the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center.

The event will be hosted by **Alderman Michael J. Murphy**, chair of the Housing Trust Fund Advisory Board and will likely include other members of the board and individuals who will be positively affected by the recent Housing Trust Fund awards. Last week the Common Council approved the advisory board's recommendations to allocate a total of **\$600,000** to create **140 units** of affordable housing for veterans and their families, as well as for low-income families.

The work slated to take place at the Soldier's Home will rehabilitate the structure and create 80 residential units to assist veterans and their families. "The Soldier's Home encompasses several buildings that are among the most important historical structures in Milwaukee," Alderman Murphy said. "The work funded by the Housing Trust Fund on the Soldier's Home grounds will allow the VA to continue to meet its goal there to provide low-cost housing to veterans and their families at risk of becoming homeless."

"The start of the holiday season makes this the perfect time to announce these important and life-improving awards," he said.

**-More-**

## Wednesday news event/ADD ONE

The allocations were recommended for approval on November 9 by the Housing Trust Fund Advisory Board and were approved on November 28 by the Common Council.

The Housing Trust Fund has awarded **\$7,106,309, leveraged a total of roughly \$176,305,415, and delivered 1,094 units to area families.** For every one dollar the city has invested in the Housing Trust Fund, there has been a return of nearly 25 dollars in projects to help those in need.

The 2017 HTF recommendations include:

- \$150,000 – **The Milwaukee Soldier’s Home** to rehabilitate the structure and create 80 residential units to assist veterans and their families.
- \$80,000 – **Community First** to address critical and emergency repairs in the Washington Park Neighborhood Improvement District. Funds will provide forgivable grants for up to 16 low-income units.
- \$40,000 – **Gibraltar Development of Milwaukee Corp.** to replace a roofing system and address other urgent needs
- \$210,000 – **Seven04 Place Apartments** to construct 60 new low-income families including targeted units for veterans and families endangered of becoming homeless.
- \$40,000 – **Layton Boulevard West Neighbors, Inc.** for acquisition, renovation, and sale of two blighted properties.
- \$80,000—**Revitalize Milwaukee** to address necessary housing updates, repairs, and accessibility modifications for up to 20 low-income elderly homeowners.

### **DIRECTIONS:**

VA Campus – 5000 W. National Ave. – after turning into entrance on Mitchell Blvd., follow Mitchell Blvd. and park at Parking Lot 28 by Old Main. From there, it’s a 5-minute walk to the front of the Old Main building for the press event. Milwaukee VA will provide limited access to Old Main Soldiers Home after the event.