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Duluth Veterans' Place: Successfully Helping Minnesota Veterans Get Back on their Feet

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After his wife was killed by a drunk driver in 1985, Veteran Jim Bonneville struggled with chemical dependency. In December of 2011, Jim moved into Duluth Veterans' Place to get the supportive services he needed. Since then, he spends his free time volunteering at a senior center nearby. "I feel more hopeful for the future," he tells the Duluth Veterans' Place staff. "I still have something to give back."

One Roof Community Housing, the project developer, transformed three blighted properties in West Duluth into 16 units of transitional and permanent supportive housing for homeless veterans. Duluth Veterans' Place also houses the regional office of the Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans (MAC-V), which allows residents to easily access programs and resources. The development has had strong neighborhood and community support.



Jeff Corey, the Executive Director at One Roof Community Housing, noted collaboration was critical for the successful completion of Duluth Veterans' Place because it made it easier to access resources from the city and to obtain necessary variances from the zoning code. One Roof collaborated with Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans, Spirit Valley Citizens Neighborhood Association, Home Depot, and Duluth LISC.



Veteran Jim Bonneville

Jim stressed the importance of having facilities like the Duluth Veterans' Place. "I appreciate anyone that has been involved in making a place like this available. It's a really good thing to have in our community."

About One Roof Community Housing: One Roof Community Housing, formerly Northern Communities Land Trust & Neighborhood Housing Services, (www.1roofhousing.org) is a non-profit organization committed to providing housing services and building and sustaining affordable homes and healthy neighborhoods.

About MHP: The Minnesota Housing Partnership (www.mhponline.org) supports affordable housing development for low- and moderate-income people to strengthen Minnesota communities and families. MHP provides information, consulting, training, resources and advocacy for communities to bolster options for safe and affordable housing.

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