



Rose Hill Townhomes and a former Chouteau Courts family in their new townhome

PASEO GATEWAY

CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS IMPLEMENTATION GRANT

12 MONTH SUMMARY REPORT: JANUARY - DECEMBER 2016

In January of 2016 HUD executed the Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant Agreement for Paseo Gateway. The Housing Authority and the City of Kansas City, Missouri are co-grantees. The purpose of the five-year grant is to replace the Chouteau Courts public housing site, and support the revitalization of the Paseo Gateway district. The \$30 million grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development has leveraged the programs and investment of nearly 30 community partners to support the revitalization of Pendleton Heights, and portions of the Independence Plaza and Paseo West neighborhoods (known collectively as Paseo Gateway). Choice Neighborhoods activities include programs in the three areas of Housing, People and Neighborhood. Below are the accomplishments to date by the team and its partners this past year.

- i. *Housing*** – The lead partners are Brinshore Development and the Housing Authority of Kansas City Missouri. The primary goal is the replacement of the 134 public housing units at Chouteau Courts in mixed-income settings totaling 360 units in 6 – 7 phases.

Phase 1 – Rose Hill Townhomes (33 units – all Chouteau Courts replacement)

Grand opening held December 6. Construction completed and all units occupied by disabled and special needs families including 15 from reStart, Inc. and 18 from Chouteau Courts. ReStart, Inc. is lead referral and supportive services provider.

Phase 2 – Pendleton Flats (30 units – 10 Chouteau Courts replacement)

Financial closing achieved, interior demolition and abatement began in December. Completion expected in August 2017.

Phase 3 – Century Apartments and Townhomes (79 units – 28 Chouteau Courts replacement)

Site purchased. Design concept and building program completed. Environmental review and preliminary financing commitments obtained. 4% Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) awarded by the Missouri Housing Development Commission (MHDC) on December 2nd. Construction closing expected in 3rd quarter 2017.

Phase 4 – Pendleton Arts Block (38 units – 14 Chouteau Courts replacement)

Site control obtained. Design concept and building program completed. Environmental review and preliminary financing commitments obtained. 9% LIHTC awarded by MHDC on December 2nd. Construction closing expected in 3rd quarter 2017.



Pendleton Flats



Pendleton Arts Block

II. People – The lead partners are United Way of Greater Kansas City and the Housing Authority. The primary goal is to strengthen community and supportive services for residents of Chouteau Courts and the surrounding community with a focus on health, education, and self-sufficiency.

555 Olive Center leased and furnished – this building at the Northeast Community Center was leased and is now under operation as the primary location for the “People” programs of the Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The site will be administered by United Way of Greater Kansas City. We are currently involved in a community engagement process around the naming of the center but are using the “555 Olive Center” as a working title (If no better ideas surface, this will be the name we use!).

Programming begins at 555 Olive Center – Literacy Kansas City began hosting classes at the Center in September. At least six partner agencies will begin in the coming months, including United Services Community Action Agency, Kansas City Public Library, Jewish Vocational Service, Samuel U. Rodgers, Literacy Kansas City, Full Employment Council and discussions are underway with other potential partners, such as Mattie Rhodes Counseling and Art Center.

Family Assessments and Case Management of Chouteau Court Households – The Housing Authority has completed family assessments for the majority of target households—including all current Chouteau Courts residents. We are currently engaged in outreach to former CC residents who are now in section 8, but eligible for replacement housing. A full complement of four social work case managers has been hired to guide families during relocation, and to critical health, employment, and education services with an aim toward self-sufficiency.

Meetings with Chouteau Courts Residents – Quarterly meetings have been held with residents at Chouteau Courts on a variety of topics including planned replacement housing, the relocation process, and services provided by Choice Neighborhoods partner agencies. In most cases translators are present if requested by Somali families.

Digital Inclusion – Google Fiber has provided the computer lab at Chouteau Courts, and Sprint has provided mobile hot spots for internet connections for Chouteau Courts families regardless of where they are located. As families relocate to new housing in Paseo Gateway they will be able to utilize the computer lab and take advantage of classes at the 555 Olive Center.



Planning for Pendleton Arts Block



Google Fiber computer lab at Chouteau Courts

Youth Programming – We held a successful summer program in 2016 for youth at Chouteau Courts that divided the day between academic enrichment and recreation. Our partner, WEB Dubois Learning Center, deployed a team of AmeriCorps volunteers and were able to demonstrate academic gains as a result of their efforts. We will continue to offer summer youth program options and are currently making plans for summer 2017.

Career Navigator – Current and former residents of Chouteau Courts have exclusive access to a career navigator to help them re-enter the workforce, improve their employment status and find first-time work opportunities. The career navigator is employed by Full Employment Council with access to FEC’s full suite of services, but is located onsite at Chouteau Courts, to give residents easy access.

School Choice Fair and Tours – Chouteau Courts residents were invited to attend in 2016 with the goal of providing information about high performance schools. Sixteen children at Chouteau Courts now attend higher performing schools as a result of the past year’s fair and tours. We are continuing this outreach in 2017, starting with a “Family Fun Night” this month that will focus on completing applications to high-performing schools, as well as a host of fun activities.

Home Visiting Services for Families with Newborns – Through a partnership with area providers we will give target households with newborns access to an evidence-based model of home visiting services. This provides a regular home visitor for three years that will work with families on parent education, accessing healthcare resources and promoting strong mental health.

The Samuel Rodgers Community-Centered Care Initiative – Our health partner provided case management, interventions, classes, screenings, and primary care physician connections to more than 300 Chouteau Courts residents with the goal of engaging residents in primary care and preventative health practices. While this initiative ended last month due to the loss of funding from an area foundation, our partnership with Samuel U. Rodgers Health Center remains strong. One member of our case manager team is employed at SURHC to help Chouteau Courts families access SURHC programs.



III. Neighborhood – The lead partner is the City of Kansas City, Missouri in conjunction with the neighborhood associations, businesses and institutions of Paseo Gateway.

Paseo Gateway Intersection Planning – SKW engineers completed the second phase of the redesign process for the Independence Avenue / Paseo Boulevard Intersection. A series of public meetings were held to gain community input.

STP Funding for Paseo Gateway Intersection Improvements – The City of Kansas City, Missouri received approval from the Mid-America Regional Council for the award of \$5,000,000 in federal Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds for the intersection improvements.

PIAC Proposal for Additional Funding of the Intersection Improvements – City Planning staff prepared a proposal for Citywide PIAC funding to help complete the budget for the intersection improvements. An award in the amount of \$2,020,000 was granted 2017 – 2021.

Purchase and Demolition of the Royale Motel – The purchase was completed by the City of KCMO. The motel is scheduled for demolition in February 2017 to make way for the Paseo Gateway Intersection improvements.

Neighborhood Visioning Sessions – 3 neighborhood visioning sessions were held with the assistance of LISC to develop concepts for the catalytic economic development projects in Paseo Gateway.

Restructuring of the Paseo Gateway Critical Community Improvements (CCI) Plan – At the request of HUD, City staff are working with LISC to prepare a revised CCI Plan, which will provide greater focus and impact on the Paseo Gateway District, including park improvements, enhanced streetscape, and business assistance programs.