

Plumley Village East Apartments ~ 16 Laurel Street, Worcester, MA 01608



To share the history of how Plumley Village East Apartments was birthed would begin with a vision that became “Plumley”, one person and now one “community” that over time has evolved into a community full of life, diversity and proudly represents deep rooted cultures.

Beautifully constructed in 1972 and located in central Massachusetts in the heart of downtown Worcester, Plumley Village East Apartments has served to be the catalyst of Community Life. Community initiatives that have led the way to bridging the gaps through a wide variety of programs that serves not only our families, but also many members of our surrounding community. Plumley Village East Apartments offers 430 multi-family apartments from 1 to 5 bedrooms including all utilities, and are housed within 16 buildings. Because of our very accessible and commutable location our residents are not burdened by transportation concerns.

As part of our Community Life Initiatives programs, housed on-site we have available a wide variety of educational and family support programs. These employ many of the development’s youth activities that serve the younger children by supporting educational development, providing recreational opportunities and, most importantly, role modeling the value of work and community development. Community Life Initiatives staff provides extensive on-site adult education and employment support. Numerous programs are also funded as a result of additional efforts by our Community Life Initiatives staff; of which are integral to Plumley Village East Apartments seeking out funding sources in joint ventures with local and government community programs for the benefit of our families.

Vital for our families, we also offer on site the community resource for Women, Infants, and Children. Resident wellness is also a very important component of Plumley Village East and in partnership with UMASS Memorial Medical Center and Community Health Link; this program focuses on obesity prevention. To complement our wellness programs, we have the Henry Lee Willis Food Pantry open for families who qualify for food assistance or need help applying for SNAP benefits. We here at Plumley Village East Apartments are fortunate to offer our families ample ground space for a community garden. Our garden has 18 raised boxed plots all donated and constructed by our local carpenters union of which are shared by a total of 25 families, and some single residents. The community garden has provided many of our residents with fresh “Plumley” grown vegetables, fruits, herbs complimenting our community pride via the fruits of their labor.

Community events are a very important part our service to our residents. As we continue to enhance our programs and services for our families we offer numerous events throughout the year. Our main events throughout the year are the Summer BBQ and Health Fair, the Back to School Bash, Literacy Fair, Holiday Party, Violence Prevention, and Youth Community Clean- up Days. Resident communication is also a very important aspect in our property. We provide our

families with a monthly newsletter full of useful information notifying them of upcoming events. We offer College Financial Aid Workshops for Adults and teens, along with their parents; they learn about college, financial aid and are assisted with completing the FAFSA applications. Our staff offers Individual Employment Coaching and work one-on-one with residents on personal needs around resume writing, and cover letter basics. Youth ages 16-19 and help prepare teens with job skills, interview skills and finding a career path. This is an established partnership with Workforce Central.

Embracing our children and young adults we have an onsite Boys and Girls Club after school and summer program for youth ages 8-13. Activities include daily homework assistance, arts and crafts, recreational activities, and educational games. Along with various other educational groups for boys ages 13-15 and another group for girls ages 12-14. Topics include making healthy decisions, consequences of decisions, healthy relationships, health education, and sex education including pregnancy prevention. This is a partner program with the Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center. Youth ages 14-17 do landscaping, garden construction, soil testing and leadership training. This is a year round program and the youth are paid throughout the year.

Plumley Village East Apartments also offers free GED and pre-GED classes for interested residents. Classes are run by a certified instructor and help prepare residents to take the GED exam along with basic computer classes for beginners level 1 & 2 and focuses on the basics of using a computer, the internet, and software. Certificates are provided to each resident that complete each level. These types of programs allow our staff to provide one-on-one coaching covering resume writing, on-line applications, job search techniques, and interview skills most necessary to compete in today's job market.

Given all that is said, and much more to share, we here at Plumley Village East Apartments continue upward, although not without its challenges however, working collaboratively with our partners in community we are most certainly well on the way. Our service of commitment to our families and community is to be a catalyst of continued family support, helping to bridge the educational, social and economic gaps, and leading them through transitions via services and programs. Plumley Village East Apartments represents a "community" full of promise and future.

Respectfully submitted,

Plumley Village East Apartments; The Community Builders, Inc.