



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Crossroads Rhode Island Celebrates the Opening of the Largest Supportive Housing Development in New England**

*Transformative, Net-Zero Community Provides Dignity, Stability and Hope in the Face of Rhode Island's Housing Crisis*

**PROVIDENCE, RI** — Today, **Crossroads Rhode Island**, the state's leading provider of housing and services for those experiencing homelessness, opened the doors to its new Summer Street Apartments. The transformative, 176-unit apartment building is the largest permanent supportive housing development for formerly homeless adults in New England.

Each one-bedroom apartment includes a kitchen, private bath, and living area, providing dignity, stability and a true sense of home for residents. To help foster connection, the building features community gathering space on every floor, as well as a safe and private landscaped courtyard for residents to enjoy. Summer Street's central location ensures easy access to healthcare, transportation, and employment opportunities. A model of sustainable, net-zero construction, the development also reflects Crossroads' commitment to environmental responsibility and to the wellbeing of the people who call it home.

"Today is a celebration of what's possible when we invest in housing, which is the only proven solution for ending homelessness," said **Michelle Wilcox, President & CEO of Crossroads**. "The Summer Street Apartments will literally be life changing for the nearly 200 men and women who will soon call them home, providing safety, stability and community to people who have struggled with housing insecurity for years. With homelessness at a record high in Rhode Island, we are so grateful to our many funders and partners for sharing our housing vision and helping us make this much-needed housing a reality."

The Summer Street Apartments are a key component of Crossroads' vision to ensure that every Rhode Islander has a safe and affordable place to call home. Unlike cramped single-room occupancy developments built in past decades, Summer Street provides residents with beautiful one-bedroom apartments, paired with supportive services designed to help them maintain their housing, such as case management, basic needs provision, education and employment services and referrals to health, mental health and recovery services. According to Crossroads data, 93 percent of those who receive affordable housing and supportive services never become homeless again.

"This development is a testament to the power of what we can accomplish when government, business, and community partners come together with a shared sense of ownership and urgency for

our state's housing crisis, said **Julie Duffy, Board Chair, Crossroads**. "As we face potential headwinds with future federal support, Crossroads remains steadfast in its mission to tackle homelessness head on. Permanent supportive housing like the Summer Street Apartments are a critical part of the solution and must continue to be developed in the near future."

In the coming months, the nearly 200 residents of Crossroads' Travelers Aid Housing, aka the Tower, will move from 9 by 12' single-rooms into a new, one-bedroom apartment at Summer Street. Next year, Crossroads plans to undertake a full renovation of the Tower to create 81 additional studio and one-bedroom apartments.

Earlier this year, Crossroads also broke ground on its Health & Housing Apartments, a 35-unit development designed for medically vulnerable adults experiencing homelessness. This innovative apartment building, scheduled for completion in late 2026, will feature a healing garden and co-located health services.

Together, these three transformative permanent supportive apartment developments will help address Rhode Island's housing and homelessness crisis by adding critically needed permanent supportive apartments to the state's inventory.

The Summer Street Apartments were funded with a mix of federal, state, and local dollars, including \$2 million in Congressional funds secured by U.S. Senators Jack Reed and Sheldon Whitehouse, and a \$10 million allocation in the 2022 state budget.

"Putting an end to homelessness requires a collaborative approach that addresses housing scarcity and affordability and increases access to wraparound supportive services. By advancing transformative projects like the new Summer Street Apartments, Crossroads is helping our state meaningfully address homelessness and better assist vulnerable Rhode Islanders with getting the help they need to find quality, long-term, stable housing that's right for them," said **U.S. Senator Jack Reed**, a member of the Appropriations Subcommittee that oversees federal housing funds. "I was proud to team up with Senator Whitehouse to deliver critical federal investments to get this project done, and I will continue working to end long-term homelessness and prioritize the production of more housing that Rhode Islanders can afford."

"Housing prices are out of control in Rhode Island, and we have got to keep building more homes," said **U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse**. "Senator Reed and I were able to secure federal funding to make Summer Street Apartments a reality and to help alleviate the statewide supply crunch. Thank you to our friends at Crossroads for all of your dedication to making sure every Rhode Islander has a safe, stable place to call home."

"Every Rhode Islander deserves the dignity of a safe, affordable home," said **U.S. Congressman Seth Magaziner**. "The 176-unit Summer Street Apartments are a step forward in tackling our state's housing crisis. I will keep working to deliver federal funding to produce more housing in Rhode Island and make housing more affordable for everyone in the state."

"As the largest supportive housing project in New England, the Summer Street Apartments reflects our commitments to real, lasting solutions for people experiencing homelessness —

giving Rhode Islanders not just a roof, but needed services, stability, and a second chance," said **U.S. Congressman Gabe Amo**. "I'm thrilled to celebrate the completion of yet another Crossroads Rhode Island permanent housing development that restores hope for so many Rhode Islanders."

"Housing is the gateway to better health, education, and workforce outcomes, and the Summer Street Apartments are the latest key in unlocking those opportunities for more and more Rhode Islanders," said **Governor Dan McKee**. "Along with the General Assembly, we've made historic investments in housing and affordability, with many more projects and plans in the pipeline. These apartments are empowering formerly homeless adults with the security, support, and resources they need to take charge of their lives and work towards a prosperous future."

"Rhode Island is in the midst of a severe housing and homelessness crisis: in the last five years, the price of a home has risen more than 50 percent, and we simply do not have enough homes to meet the market's demand. As the cost of housing increases, so does homelessness," said **House Speaker K. Joseph Shekarchi**. "Working together, we are making real, sustained progress. I am incredibly proud that the General Assembly supported the Summer Street Apartments in our state budget, and this development will transform the lives of its new residents."

"The opening of the Summer Street Apartments strengthens Providence's housing infrastructure and expands opportunity for our neighbors," said **Mayor Brett P. Smiley**. "Every person deserves the stability and dignity of a safe home, and developments like this bring us closer to our vision for an inclusive city where everyone has access to a home. I'm grateful to Crossroads and our partners for choosing to invest in Providence and delivering high quality, supportive housing for our community."

To learn more about the Summer Street Apartments or Crossroads Rhode Island's mission to end homelessness, visit [www.crossroadsri.org/summer-street](http://www.crossroadsri.org/summer-street).

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Attachment: Summer Street Apartments Funders and Partners



## **Summer Street Apartments: Funders**

Bank of America  
City of Providence  
FHLB Boston  
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) and  
its equity investment affiliate National Equity Fund (NEF)  
Providence Redevelopment Agency  
RI Department of Environmental Management  
RI Executive Office of Housing  
RI Housing  
U.S. Senator Jack Reed  
U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse  
Washington Trust

## **Summer Street Apartments: Partners**

KITE Architects  
TRAC Builders  
Linda Silveira Real Estate Consulting, LLC  
Peregrine Group  
Anjali Joshi Design  
Clean Economy Development  
Conflux Art Projects  
Flint Audio Video  
Hiero Veiga  
Ideal Residences of New England  
Narragansett Engineering, Inc.  
Newport Renewables  
Novogradac  
Riemer Braunstein, LLP  
RI Energy  
RMA Environmental  
SAGE Environmental  
Source Advisors  
Starkweather & Shepley Insurance  
Stephen Turner, Inc  
Sterling Engineering  
Wayfinder Collaborative

Wilkinson Associates  
WSP USA