

For Immediate Release
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Leavitt Apartments, the First of Their Kind in Illinois, Officially Open

State investment provides permanent homes and supportive services for six individuals with disabilities

FLOSSMOOR – Residents with disabilities now have new opportunities for independent living in Flossmoor. The Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) and New Star today joined state and local officials to announce the grand opening of the Leavitt Apartments, a new six-unit apartment building and the first single-site supportive housing development for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities financed by IHDA. All six apartments are specifically designed to allow residents – who would otherwise live with family or in group homes – to live independently with the help of services provided on-site by New Star.

“This is an amazing opportunity for the Village of Flossmoor,” IHDA Executive Director Audra Hamernik said. “These are critically needed apartments that will go a long way to improve quality of life for people with disabilities. With affordable rents, access to neighborhood amenities and connections to supportive services, they will ensure that every resident can reach their full potential, regardless of the challenges they face.”

Located within walking distance to the amenities of downtown Flossmoor – including the Metra station, library, post office and more – the Leavitt Apartments offers new options for those who do not need the 24-hour services of a group home. Individualized supportive services provided by New Star, including education, life management skills, vocational services and enrichment programs, create a unique opportunity to balance residents’ desire for independence with their personal service needs.

“It is a milestone for any individual to live on their own and achieve independence,” said Dan Strick, President/CEO of New Star. “This is an incredible opportunity for our consumers to take on that responsibility with supportive care. It highlights our mission and firm commitment to provide choices and opportunities for persons with disabilities.”

Developed by New Star and Brush Hill Development, Leavitt Apartments was financed entirely with \$2.3 million from the State’s Build Illinois Bond Program, which provides affordable housing grants, loans and investments with an emphasis on serving low-income persons with

disabilities. In addition, rental assistance for all six apartments will be provided through the Housing Authority of Cook County.

For more information on leasing and waitlist status, contact New Star at (708) 755-8030.

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About the Illinois Housing Development Authority

IHDA (www.ihda.org) is a self-supporting state agency that finances the creation and the preservation of affordable housing across Illinois. Since its creation in 1967, IHDA has allocated \$18 billion and financed approximately 255,000 affordable housing units for residents of Illinois