



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Linda Kelleher
571-970-1210 (direct)
703-346-9808 (cell)
lkelleher@culpeppergarden.org

Arlington County Approves Culpepper Garden Renovation Funding

Arlington, VA (November 10, 2016) -- The Arlington County Board last night unanimously approved Culpepper Garden's application for \$9.9 million in Affordable Housing Investment Funds (AHIF) to be used toward the \$63 million renovation of 204 apartments that house low-income Arlington residents over age 62.

"These funds will help Arlington Retirement Housing Corporation (ARHC), the nonprofit owner of Culpepper Garden, complete a major renovation of the original 204 apartments opened in 1975, and continue our mission to house our current and future very low-income senior population," said ARHC Board Chair Susan Philp.

ARHC is partnering with Wesley Housing Development Corporation, a nonprofit affordable housing developer, to renovate Culpepper Garden, located at 4435 N. Pershing Drive, Arlington, VA. Residents will be relocated onsite temporarily while their apartments are renovated. Renovations will include replacement of major mechanical systems (heating and cooling, plumbing and sanitary); energy-saving features including repair of the building facade, new roof and windows; sprinkler system throughout the building; updated elevators, and new kitchens and bathrooms that include walk-in showers in each unit. ARHC has also made a commitment to make 10% of the apartments fully ADA accessible and incorporate universal design when possible.

"Culpepper Garden is a unique, critical part of Arlington's safety net for seniors. We provide affordable housing for very low income seniors and a vibrant community where older Arlingtonians can age in place," said ARHC Executive Director Linda Kelleher.



With the AHIF funds approved by the County Board, the next step is to complete the construction documents and submit the application for Low Income Housing Tax Credit bonds. Culpepper Garden expects to close on financing and break ground on the renovation in the Summer of 2017. Renovation will be completed in the Summer of 2019.

#####

About Culpepper Garden: Culpepper Garden provides 340 units of affordable housing with services for low income seniors over age 62. Built in three stages, 267 independent living units opened in 1975 and 1992, and 73 assisted living were added in 2000. Located on 4+ acres in the heart of Arlington, Culpepper Garden's affordable, assisted living wing was the first in the U.S. and the only one that exists in Arlington. Founded 41 years ago, Arlington Retirement Housing Corporation (ARHC) is the nonprofit owner of Culpepper Garden. For more information visit www.culpeppergarden.org.

About Wesley Housing Development Corporation: Wesley Housing is a nonprofit organization that builds, preserves, and manages permanent, affordable rental housing and provides supportive services for low- and moderate-income families, seniors, and individuals with disabilities and special needs who might otherwise face homelessness. Since 1974, they have served over 25,000 at-risk individuals in the Washington DC metropolitan area. For more information, visit www.wesleyhousing.org.