



For immediate release...

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## **PUSH BUFFALO TO THROW A 'MAD' PARTY ON MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE**

*City and State Officials to Join PUSH Leaders to Celebrate the Completion of Two New Building Developments*

**BUFFALO, N.Y.** – People United for Sustainable Housing (PUSH Buffalo), a local membership-based community organization, will hold a ribbon-cutting on **Thursday, Sept. 6 at 10 a.m. at 460 Massachusetts Ave.** to celebrate the **completion of two of the Massachusetts Avenue Development (MAD) buildings**, Victorian-era homes that have been turned **into seven energy efficient apartments** along the Massachusetts Avenue corridor.

**Mayor Byron Brown, Assemblyman Sean Ryan, Council Member David Rivera, and Brendan Mehaffy, Office of Strategic Planning executive director**, will join PUSH staff, members and West Side community residents at Thursday's ribbon-cutting event. The buildings are PUSH's **first, large-scale rehabilitation effort** on Buffalo's West Side.

"Once again, PUSH members have joined forces with the City and the State to provide members of this community with quality housing," said Mayor Byron Brown. "We strongly believe that everyone living in the City of Buffalo should have access to affordable, energy efficient housing. Neighborhoods thrive when all members of the community work together to better an area."

"I'm honored to join members of PUSH to officially mark the completion of a project that is a win-win for Massachusetts Avenue and the West Side of Buffalo," said Assemblyman Sean Ryan. "These new energy efficient buildings will help to further revitalization efforts along Massachusetts Avenue by sparking investment and general interest in the area."

The MAD buildings, located at 397, 398 and 460 Massachusetts Ave., include state-of-the-art green building features such as hardwood floors, ENERGY STAR appliances, metal roofs, HardiPlank fiber cement siding, radiant floor heating, high efficiency heating systems, and high levels of insulation. Each of the seven units is also ENERGY STAR Homes certified and extremely spacious and bright.

"I'm going to keep working with Governor Cuomo to ensure that New York State continues to invest in meaningful projects that have a real impact on their communities, much like PUSH's new MAD buildings," continued Ryan.

Funding for the MAD buildings included grants from New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR), the Housing Trust Fund (HTC), HCR Urban Initiatives, the Federal Home Loan Bank, and the City of Buffalo.

"We know that our members are extremely proud of the work that went into completing these buildings," said Jennifer Mecozzi, PUSH Buffalo organizing director. "Not only is it a vital part of our mission; it's crucial to the area's continued growth and general well-being."

Special thanks to the following groups who also contributed to the development of the Massachusetts Avenue buildings: Lamperelli Construction, general contractor, IRD Corporation, construction management firm, Eco\_Logic Studios, project architect, M&T Bank, and Buffalo Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC Buffalo).

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**About PUSH Buffalo:** People United for Sustainable Housing's (PUSH) mission is to mobilize residents to create strong neighborhoods with quality affordable housing, expand local hiring opportunities and advance economic justice in Buffalo. PUSH members work with partners and funders to create a healthy, just and strong city that includes community control of resources, living wage jobs and access to quality education, healthcare and transportation. For more information about our growing organization, visit [www.PUSHBuffalo.org](http://www.PUSHBuffalo.org).

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**TOURS OF TWO OF THE APARTMENTS WILL TAKE PLACE AT 10:30 A.M. PHOTOS CAN BE TAKEN UPON REQUEST**