



For immediate release...

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PUSH BUFFALO COMPLETES HOME REHABILITATION ON MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE

Building to House Three Families and New Green Jobs – Green New York Staff

BUFFALO – People United for Sustainable Housing (PUSH) Buffalo, a local membership-based community organization fighting to make affordable housing a reality, will hold a ribbon cutting and press conference, on **Thursday, Dec. 15 from 1-2 p.m.**, to celebrate the completion of the rehabilitated building on **456 Massachusetts Avenue**. **Assemblyman Sean Ryan, Councilmember David Rivera** and **representatives from Mayor Byron Brown's office** are all scheduled to attend the event.

“We are excited to complete another project in our internationally recognized Green Development Zone that expands access to quality, affordable and energy-efficient housing in our community,” said Jen Mecozzi, board chair of PUSH Buffalo. “We have been working on this building for the last year and we are excited to finally see it up and running.”

The building, which was funded by New York State’s Homes & Community Renewal (HCR) department, a partnership portal for all of the State’s major housing and community renewal agencies, underwent a number of repairs. Renovations were designed to dramatically increase the building’s energy-efficiency for residents and included the installation of a standing seam metal roof, fiber cement clapboard siding and trim, blown-in insulation, energy efficient windows and doors, and asbestos abatement. A variety of outdoor amenities, such as lighting, green space, parking spaces, fences, and covered porches and entranceways were also installed for tenant use.

“This is an exciting time for us over at PUSH,” continued Mecozzi. “This project shows that when our community gets together to control our neighborhood’s assets, like this building, we can meet the need for more affordable and energy-efficient housing. We are happy to know that our tenants can look forward to living in a warm home, with low gas bills this winter!”

While the newly renovated building currently houses three families in energy-efficient and permanently affordable residential units on the top floor, the building will now serve as a satellite office for PUSH and members of the new outreach team for NYSERDA’s **Green Jobs – Green New York (GJGNY)** program, a statewide initiative designed to promote energy efficiency and the installation of clean technologies to reduce energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions.

Citizens Bank, who will also be in attendance at the Thursday ribbon cutting and press conference, is slated to make an announcement regarding their support for creating additional affordable housing for PUSH’s Green Development Zone.

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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.

About Green Jobs – Green York

The Green Jobs – Green New York (GJGNY) program is the first statewide initiative to be implemented in the nation and is designed to promote energy efficiency and the installation of clean technologies to reduce energy costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The GJGNY program provides New Yorkers with access to energy audits, installation services, low-cost financing, and pathways to training for various green-collar careers. NYSERDA and independent contractor PUSH Buffalo will work jointly to administer this program. For more information about Green Jobs – Green New York, visit www.NYSERDA.org.

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