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LAKEWOOD, Colo. — As of December 13, there are 115 more units of affordable housing in Lakewood. Last Friday, Metro West Housing Solutions (MWHS) celebrated the Grand Opening of Indy Street Flats, its newest affordable housing community located at 1440 Independence Avenue.

The \$37 million project is a combination of rehabbed units, adaptive reuse, and new construction. 84 units are housed in a new building, with interior design features and murals honoring the historic spirit of West Colfax. 12 2-bedroom units were previously owned and operated by MWHS and were rehabbed while remaining affordable. The remaining 19 units are housed in the historic Masonic Lodge, which now houses the first micro-units in Lakewood.

Historic preservation and adaptive reuse of the Masonic Lodge is what led MWHS to style Indy Street Flats after the 1950s spirit that still lingers along West Colfax.

All 115 units in the new community are affordable and reserved for individuals and families earning 30-60% of the Area Median Income. At the time of opening, there was a wait list of over 900 for an apartment at the new community.

Tami Fischer, Executive Director and CEO of MWHS, spoke to the importance of building affordable housing in Lakewood: “as rents in Lakewood surge higher and higher, hard-working individuals and families are being priced out of living where they work. We are so proud to be able to offer much-needed high quality affordable housing to those who need it most in the Lakewood community. Indy Street Flats is a beautiful community whose residents can be proud to call home.”

Friday’s grand opening ceremony brought together the project’s partners, Lakewood officials and community members to tour model units and amenities located in the new building and the Masonic Lodge. Over 150 attendees viewed the buildings’ community rooms, office suites, fitness center, and original murals.

“Metro West has been a staple in the Lakewood community for years, providing award-winning housing to thousands of Lakewood’s residents,” said Adam Paul, Lakewood’s mayor.

“Agency-wide, MWHS has over 9,000 applicants on their wait list, which shows just how critical their mission of providing affordable housing is. We are proud of their commitment to provide beautiful, high-quality affordable housing communities like Indy Street Flats.”

The project was supported through public-private partnership and utilized \$18 million in state and federal tax credit equity. Shopworks Architecture served as architect on the project with general contracting through Taylor Kohrs.

About Metro West Housing Solutions

Metro West Housing Solutions (MWHS), established in 1974, is a non-profit affordable housing agency and property developer that owns and manages apartment communities in Lakewood and Denver, administers Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) to eligible Lakewood residents, and facilitates a wide range of resident services for clients. In addition to the 1,124 affordable and LIHTC units MWHS has acquired and developed, MWHS also manages 1,411 HCVs and has housed over 30,000 individuals and families.