

April 28, 2010

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## **HISTORIC REHABILITATION OF 17<sup>TH</sup> STREET HOME COMPLETED**

**Harrisburg, PA** – Tri-County HDC, Ltd. was joined today by Mayor Linda D. Thompson, Citizens Bank, Historic Harrisburg Association and UGI Utilities to celebrate and dedicate a historic rehabilitation project the agency completed through the Capital Corridors Rehabilitation Program. The Capital Corridors Rehabilitation Program commenced in 1993 and has included the rehabilitation of 70 properties, creating homeownership opportunities in the targeted South Allison Hill area. Today, the City and Tri County cuts the ribbon on the 71<sup>st</sup> completed home located at 338 South 17<sup>th</sup> Street – a total investment of nearly \$7 million.

“Capital Corridors” refers to the main corridors in the South Allison neighborhood: Derry, Market, South 13<sup>th</sup>, South 17<sup>th</sup> and Swatara Streets. An investment in these visible, major through-ways promotes the revitalization efforts in the community and the City and increases the City’s tax base.

Through the Capital Corridors project, 71 families have been able to purchase high-quality and affordable homes in the City. These homes are “gut-rehabs” which boast all-new electrical, mechanical and plumbing systems as well as new appliances and finishes and other popular amenities. Rehabilitation is sponsored by the City of Harrisburg’s HOME Investment Partnership and Lead Hazard Control Programs funded by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. Christopher Rockey, President of the Tri County Board of Directors noted “the program supports partnerships and collaborations with certified Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO’s) to provide affordable housing opportunities to low- and moderate-income households.” Rockey added, “Tri County is proud of this commitment and look forward to continuing our partnership with the City to provide additional quality housing options for families in Harrisburg.”

338 S. 17<sup>th</sup> Street is the 71<sup>st</sup> home completed through the Capital Corridors Program. Located at the busy intersection of 17<sup>th</sup> and Derry, the historic rehabilitation has made a measurable impact on this corner. This Victorian-era home was vacant nearly 10 years prior to the acquisition and rehabilitation of the property. The extensive historic rehabilitation took nearly one year with a small crew of two rehabilitation specialists. The total cost of the rehab was nearly \$208,000, including acquisition, in-kind replacement of wood windows, wood siding, remediation of high levels of lead-based paint, and the special finishes selected to fit in with this historic row of homes.

Tri-County Housing’s construction crew has started rehabilitation at 1522 Swatara Street, a condemned and fire damaged property. This property will be available for

sale in about six months and will represent the 72<sup>nd</sup> property completed through the Capital Corridors Program.

Thompson said the housing rehabilitation being dedicated today “is a further extension of very significant residential renewal and homeownership opportunities that extend throughout South Allison Hill. Most notably, Tri County HDC has also been the prime sponsor of the Mount Pleasant Apartments rehabilitation project involving the rehabilitation and construction of 47 affordable rental units completed in 2007 and the Mount Pleasant Homes new construction project which is currently underway. The two project demonstrate Tri County’s commitment to providing quality, affordable, and sustainable housing opportunities in the Allison Hill community.”

Michael Fessler from UGI Utilities, joined Tri-County Housing today to provide \$5,000 to the replacement of the historic wood windows and demonstrate their continued commitment to energy efficiency in the Allison Hill neighborhood. Tri-County Housing was also joined by John Campbell, the new Executive Director of Historic Harrisburg Association. “Historically accurate rehabilitation, like the rehab Tri County dedicates today, is vital to promoting the significance of Harrisburg’s National Historic District and pays tribute to the Victorian-era construction which makes up some of South Allison Hill’s diverse neighborhood fabric.”

Citizens Bank displayed their support of the Capital Corridor’s initiative with a check for \$10,000 to continue the work of the Tri County HDC throughout South Allison Hill.

For more information on the Tri-County HDC housing rehabilitation program or Mount Pleasant Homes project, visit the Tri-County’s website at [www.tchdc.net](http://www.tchdc.net) or call (717) 231-3604.

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