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Plymouth Housing & St. Francis House Break Ground on New Housing,
New Home for Venerated Organization

Work has begun on a new home for St. Francis House and 100 studio apartments on 12th Avenue

SEATTLE – February 24 – Plymouth Housing, a provider of permanent supportive housing and St. Francis House, an organization serving people experiencing homelessness, today announced a partnership to redevelop the site where St. Francis has operated since the 1980s on 12th Avenue at Spruce Street, on the edge of First Hill. The new development is underway and will feature 100 studio apartments for single adults, many of whom are veterans, and three apartments for full-time staff. The new home for St. Francis House and 100 people exiting long-term homelessness will open in 2022.

The fourth of six buildings to be funded by Plymouth’s PROOF Campaign, the ground floor will be operated by St. Francis House and feature flexible spaces, allowing the organization to continue helping those in need with essential supplies such as food and clothing and a space to be in community with others. In addition to the studio units, the residential portion of the building will have offices for building staff and housing case management, a nurse’s office, flexible-use common rooms for community-building, a front desk, and outdoor community space. The 100 residents will have access to 24/7 supportive services to help them recover from years of homelessness.

St. Francis House Executive Director Laura Young is “delighted about their future custom home” after operating in a building she described as “makeshift.”

“Our new space was specifically designed by Schemata Workshop with the dignity of our clients in mind,” said Young. “They’ll enjoy a more welcoming, open space, a beautiful courtyard, and a boutique-like shopping experience with proper dressing rooms. We were naturally drawn to Plymouth Housing as a partner based on our shared values, and the strong sense of community we witnessed after touring several of their properties.”

“We’re excited to have this shared vision with St. Francis House,” said Paul Lambros, CEO of Plymouth Housing. “By working together, we’ll provide permanent supportive housing and an essential safety net to those who have served our country. This partnership is an incredible way for both organizations to further our missions and help more people, holistically.”

Project partners include St. Francis House and SMR Architects. The general contractor is W.G. Clark Construction. Funding for the project is from the Plymouth PROOF Campaign, St. Francis House, City of Seattle Office of Housing (City of Seattle Housing Levy), Washington State Housing Finance Commission (9% Low Income Housing Tax Credits), Washington State Department of Commerce (Washington State Housing Trust Fund), Capital One, Federal Home Loan Bank (Affordable Housing Program), National Equity Fund and Sound Community Bank.

A high-resolution rendering of the new building is available. More information is available at https://plymouthhousing.org/our-housing/community-development/
About Plymouth Housing

Plymouth Housing’s mission is to eliminate homelessness and address its causes by preserving, developing and operating safe, quality, supportive housing and by providing adults experiencing homelessness with opportunities to stabilize and improve their lives. Plymouth follows the “Housing First” philosophy, operating on the principle that people cannot improve their lives until they have a safe, stable place to live. www.plymouthhousing.org

About St. Francis House

St. Francis House, founded in 1967, is established in the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi to be a presence in Seattle to serve those in need and to inspire simplicity and charity in its volunteers and those they serve. They serve hundreds of people experiencing homelessness or living in poverty each week. www.stfrancishouseseattle.org

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