The Senior Director of Real Estate, Dave Brewton discussed with PHFA the community impact of their $275,000 grant that was awarded to Hazelwood Initiative’s Rental Preservation Program in 2020.

The Hazelwood Affordable Rental Preservation project (HARPP) involved the acquisition and renovation of 63 scattered site rental units for permanent preservation as affordable rental housing for families earning 60% of the AMI or less.

The units were improved with projects such as kitchen renovations, leaky sinks, broken toilets, damaged ceilings, and other updates to ensure preservation and quality of life for tenants.

Doreen Morse, a long-term tenant (pictured left), was able to benefit from this program to renovate the kitchen in her home while also receiving a lowered rent and utility rate to 30% of her pension and social security income.

For nearly 25 years, Hazelwood Initiative has been a forum for all of Hazelwood to join forces and determine how to positively shape the neighborhood’s future. Within the last seven years the organization has developed approximately 90 units of affordable rent and homeowner housing in the area. Hazelwood’s goal is “Development without Displacement” to begin to close the ever-widening gap between the cost of creating good quality dwelling units and the amount of money low-income families can afford to pay.

“In November 2022, PHFA received nearly 400 applications for the 2022-23 round requesting approximately $146 Million in requests.”

- Dave Brewton, Senior Director, Hazelwood Initiative