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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Completion of Inner City Christian Federation Development Expands Affordable Housing Opportunities in Grand Rapids

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH. – The Inner City Christian Federation is hosting a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 1244/1246 Cass Ave SE, on May 27 at 10:30am to celebrate the completion of their largest development to date, Pleasant Prospect Homes.

This scattered site, 90 unit development includes:

- Rehabilitating 60 rental housing units (30 duplexes) which were developed and have been successfully managed by ICCF since 1991
- New construction of 30 rental units (15 duplexes); most of which will be located on sites formerly occupied by the now closed Madison Square Housing Co-op
- Reconstructing an existing a 2,100 SF building as a community space located at 400 Franklin St. SE

The rehabilitation of the 60 rental units included installing new roofs, new kitchens with cabinets, countertops and appliances, and new bathrooms. Additional steps to promote energy efficiency that have been taken include the installation of 95 percent efficient furnaces, Low E Argon replacement windows, Energy Star rated appliances, and high efficiency lighting.

Twenty-three of the units are designated as Permanent Supportive Housing units for persons with physical disabilities, persons at risk of homelessness and the chronically homeless. The community space will enable ICCF to assist homeless families with children through direct advocacy and a commitment to stay with them as a support after the financial assistance or services are scheduled to conclude. The space will also be used to provide parenting education classes, and an educational series coordinated by a Pine Rest Permanent Supportive Housing Advocate and an ICCF Supportive Housing Specialist.

ICCF President and CEO Jonathan Bradford, Mayor George Heartwell and other partners will detail the impact this development will have on the Grand Rapids Southeast side community. Representatives of the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce will also participate in this event.

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ICCF would like to publically thank everyone involved in supporting Pleasant Prospect Homes. This project was funded by a variety of sources, including MSHDA (Michigan State Housing Development Authority), Mercantile Bank, the City of Grand Rapids HOME fund, FHLBI (Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis), and Great Lakes Capital Fund.

Tours will immediately follow the ceremony and a light reception will be held at ICCF’s Pleasant Prospect Homes new community space located at 400 Franklin SE. For more information please contact Sandra Gaddy, VP of Advancement at 616-336-9333 or sgaddy@iccf.org.

ICCF is the oldest non-profit affordable housing provider in the state of Michigan. Active in the Grand Rapids area since 1974, the agency serves more than 2200 families a year through its programs and services. Program offerings include Family Haven emergency housing located at 701 Prospect SE (Grand Rapids), 168 units of affordable rental housing, newly constructed homes for purchase, home ownership education and financial counseling. All services are provided in Spanish and English. Visit www.iccf.org for more information.

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