NEW YORK, Oct. 11, 2017 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- The NHP Foundation, a national leader in providing quality affordable housing to America's working poor, elderly and families, today announced its inaugural fundraising event. "An Afternoon of Learning, An Evening of Recognition" Symposium & Dinner will be held October 17th at Union Station in Washington, D.C. The event combines learning and celebration, and it features the release of an academic study on funding affordable housing, as well as a panel discussion with experts in the field.

The NHP Foundation's event will be split into two parts. Kicking things off is the "Afternoon of Learning," where The NHP Foundation will present its first-ever Trailblazer Awards to two leading proponents of national affordable housing policy – central figures in the expansion of the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) – Senator Orrin Hatch (R) of Utah and Senator Maria Cantwell (D) of Washington.

"Senators Hatch and Cantwell have been outstanding proponents in the bi-partisan movement for enhancing affordable housing throughout the United States," said Richard Burns, President & CEO, The NHP Foundation. "Their efforts have helped redefine today's affordable housing landscape, and we couldn't think of two better recipients for our first-ever Trailblazer awards."

Following the awards presentation, the afternoon will feature the results of an important report entitled "Pay for Success and Affordable Housing," undertaken by the respected UVA Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy and its Pay for Success Lab – featuring The NHP Foundation. Following the report's unveiling will be a panel discussion about the study and the future of affordable housing moderated by Washington Post contributor Michele Lerner. Please see below for a full list of panel participants.
After the panel, the event will transition into "An Evening of Recognition." The cocktail reception and awards dinner will take place in the East Hall of Washington, D.C.'s historic Union Station. The evening will celebrate groundbreaking accomplishments and recognize leaders in the community. NHPF will present its 2017 Affordable Housing Advocacy Award to Emily Cadik, a director of Public Policy at Enterprise Community Partners, where she has demonstrated extraordinary leadership in the affordable housing community and its 2017 Affordable Housing Visionary Award to Todd Crow, Executive Vice President & Manager of Tax Credit Capital, PNC Real Estate, who is widely recognized as a force for continued positive change in the affordable housing industry.

A wide range of attendees is expected, including builders, policy-makers, affordable housing advocates, academic researchers, and many in the media, law, finance and philanthropic sectors. The event is the Foundation's first industry fundraiser, and all proceeds will benefit The NHP Foundation's Fund for New Development, which supports the acquisition, pre-development, development and service-enriched affordable housing properties in communities around the country.

"Despite our best efforts in partnership with the private and public sector, the lack of affordable housing in the U.S. is a bona fide crisis," added Burns. "The 2017 Symposium & Dinner gives us an opportunity to celebrate affordable housing champions while examining the challenges ahead. We look forward to honoring the best and the brightest and working together to develop some forward-thinking solutions."

For more information on the event, please visit: http://www.nhpfoundation.org/2017-symposium-and-dinner/index.html.

**Affordable Housing: Shaping The Future Today**

**Panelists**

**Thom Amdur, Executive Director, National Housing & Rehabilitation Association** directs day-to-day operations including legislative and regulatory advocacy, committee activities, conferences and events, publications, financial management and strategic planning.

**Maya Brennan, Research Associate, Urban Institute** engages in research, analysis, and stakeholder engagement as part of the Policy Advisory Group at the Urban Institute.

**Emily Cadik, Director, Public Policy, Enterprise Community Partners** leads policy and advocacy related to the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, New Markets Tax Credit and rental assistance programs.

**Stephen Green, COO/CIO, NHPF** has more than 35 years of experience in real estate and economic development projects in both the public and private sectors.
Andrew M. Grumet, Partner, Drinker Biddle focuses his work in the areas of charitable giving, philanthropy and the general representation of domestic and international tax-exempt organizations.

Michael J. Novogradac, CPA Novogradac & Company LLP has more than 25 years of experience specializing in affordable housing, community development and renewable energy.

Mark Ragsdale, Senior Vice President, PNC Bank has nearly 30 years of experience in the multifamily affordable housing finance industry and is a key member of PNC Real Estate's affordable housing team.

About The NHP Foundation
Headquartered in New York City with offices in Washington, D.C., and Chicago, I.L., The NHP Foundation (NHPF) was launched on January 30, 1989, as a publicly supported 501(c)(3) not-for-profit real estate corporation. NHPF is dedicated to preserving and creating sustainable, service-enriched multifamily housing that is both affordable to low and moderate income families and seniors, and beneficial to their communities. NHPF also provides a robust resident services program to nearly 18,000 community residents. Through partnerships with major financial institutions, the public sector, faith-based initiatives, and other not-for-profit organizations, NHPF has 47 properties, with over 8,000 units, in 15 states and the District of Columbia. For more information, visit www.nhpfoundation.org.

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