



Fellowship Square

Vacated Fellowship Square Senior Housing Community in Reston Now Being Used as a Training Location for Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department

"Training in a real structure like this provides us with an amazing and very rare opportunity"

August 4, 2022 – Reston, Va. - Fellowship Square's recently vacated Lake Anne Fellowship House, a 1970's era apartment building scheduled for demolition, is currently serving the local community in a unique and important way: the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department (FCFRD) is using the building as training for "residential high-rise events." The FCFRD is conducting a variety of indoor search and rescue drills, as well as conducting aerial rescues using the ladder trucks and specialized mannequins to practice removing people from windows.

"Training in a real structure like this provides us with an amazing and very rare opportunity," said Scott Kraut, Fire Captain at Firehouse 25 in Reston. The trainings will occur over the next several weeks.

The Lake Anne Fellowship House property has served as an affordable housing community for seniors in Reston over the past 50 years since its construction in the 1970s. The 300+ older adult residents of the community [recently moved to the newly constructed building](#) adjacent to the old property. With the original building now fully vacated and scheduled for demolition over the year ahead, Fellowship Square and Enterprise Community Development, who will be overseeing demolition and redevelopment, agreed to the fire department request to use the building for training drills.

"Firefighting is an inherently dangerous profession, and it is only through training and dedication to the craft of firefighting that we can be safe. It is a rare opportunity to train in structures that represent the community you serve. To be able to practice our skills in a residential high-rise is extremely rare. The ability to train in the Fellowship House located at 11450 North Shore Dr. in the Reston community may be a once-in-a-career opportunity."

- Fire Captain Scott Kraut, Fairfax County Fire Department (station 25)

"The Lake Anne Fellowship House has long served the Reston community by providing much needed affordable housing for financially fragile older adults living on limited fixed incomes. We are so pleased that the building itself is continuing to serve the community and support first responders in this unique and important way."

- Christy Zeitz, CEO of Fellowship Square.

Photos below are available in high resolution in this [Google Drive folder](#):

Fellowship Square, a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, is one of the leading local providers of affordable housing and services to low-income seniors, owning 670 units (240 of them jointly) and serving more than 800 older adults. Through HUD funding and vouchers, residents of Fellowship Houses – many who live on Social Security or Supplemental Security Income alone, with an average annual fixed-income of \$10,000/year – pay no more than 30 percent of their income toward their housing costs, including rent and a utility allowance. Through professionally managed apartment communities, programming, and services, Fellowship Square ensures that residents have the support they need to live independent and fulfilling lives even in the face of serious obstacles, such as the high costs of housing in the greater Washington DC area. For more information on Fellowship Square housing options, volunteer opportunities or donations, visit fellowshipsquare.org, call 703.860.2536 or email info@fellowshipsquare.org.

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PHOTOS (these and others available for download:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/2/folders/1M0b57DHR4EX85ylfRfidBz9ZqP88LY9U>



Suggested caption: Fairfax County fire fighters conduct high-rise rescue drills at Fellowship Square’s recently vacated Lake Anne Fellowship House. With the 300+ residents of the senior affordable housing community now relocated to a newly constructed building adjacent to the old property, the fire department is taking advantage of the opportunities to conduct indoor search and rescue exercises and aerial rescue drills using the ladder trucks and specialized mannequins to practice removing people from windows of high-rise buildings. “It is a rare opportunity to train in structures that represent the community you serve. To be able to practice our skills in a residential high-rise is extremely rare,” says Fire Captain Scott Kraut, Fairfax County Fire Department (station 25).