



## Fellowship Square

### **Residents safe, but temporarily relocated, following kitchen fire at Largo Landing Fellowship House**

On Tuesday afternoon, December 5th, a fire started in a resident's microwave located in a first-floor apartment at Largo Landing Fellowship House. The fire alarms sounded, and the fire was extinguished by the sprinkler system. Prince George's County Fire and EMS crews were onsite within minutes. Contractors from the electric company were quickly onsite to assess damage and safety of the building's electrical infrastructure. Volunteers from the Red Cross and Prince George's County Social Services arrived to assist and support the 111 residents who currently live in the building.

No injuries occurred during the incident. The property staff is working closely with the contractors to assess and repair extensive property damage due to the water from the sprinkler system. The fire and smoke damage itself is contained to lower sections of the building. However, all water and electricity into the building has been temporarily shut off while water damage from the sprinkler system is assessed and electric infrastructure components dry out. Due to the loss of electrical power while the water damage clean-up is underway, the Prince George's County Fire Department deemed the building temporarily uninhabitable and requested all residents be relocated for the next two days.

Amid this, our very top priority is the safe accommodation of our 111 older adult residents. As the situation unfolded, residents were assisted by staff, Red Cross volunteers and Prince George's County Social Services in gathering a small bag of clothing/personal items and calling out to local family and friends to arrange for accommodations for at least two days. Those who are unable to stay with local contacts were assisted by Prince George's County Social Services, placed in nearby hotels, and are being provided meals. We are pleased that all our residents are now in secure temporary accommodations and thank our community for assistance, support, and flexibility.

Clean up and damage remediation efforts have already begun, with multiple work crews onsite. As of today (*Dec. 6 at 3:00pm*), we are awaiting assessment and testing of the electrical units so that we can get approval to reactivate electricity to the building and let residents return. We are in direct contact with all Largo Landing Fellowship House residents to keep them informed of progress and timelines. We are hopeful that the vast majority of residents will be back in the building by week-end and are working with the Red Cross on longer-term housing for the occupant of the fire damaged apartment and the unit next door, where more extensive repair is needed.