



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Suzanne Morse

(617) 646-1020

smorse@oneilandassoc.com

**Urban Edge Awarded Funding from Wells Fargo Foundation for
Redevelopment of Mildred Hailey Apartments in Jamaica Plain**

\$175,000 grant will enhance community engagement efforts, improve health and safety for residents, and provide financial sustainability for residents

Boston, Mass. (November 26, 2018) - Urban Edge, Inc. announced today it is receiving a \$175,000 grant from the Wells Fargo Foundation for a multi-year effort and partnership with the Boston Housing Authority and its residents to redevelop the Mildred C. Hailey Apartments in Jamaica Plain. The grant will help the organization with its community engagement efforts around the complex's redevelopment, ensuring that residents have a say in how the housing is redesigned.

In 2017, the Boston Housing Authority (BHA) selected Centre Street Partners (CSP), a partnership among Urban Edge, Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corporation (JPND) and The Community Builders (TCB), to redevelop a six-acre portion of the Mildred C. Hailey Apartments containing 232 apartments. In total, there are 804 units of public housing in the Hailey complex.

"Urban Edge is excited to be working with our partners and with the BHA to redevelop the Mildred C. Hailey Apartments," said Marty Jones, Urban Edge's interim Chief Executive Officer. "An important part of our work is to ensure that the community has input into the process and this grant will help us and our partners create a design that meets the needs of current residents. We are grateful to the Wells Fargo Foundation for its support."

The goals of the redevelopment are to replace distressed and obsolete buildings, preserve affordable housing units, improve health and safety for residents, and provide financial sustainability for the development. The redevelopment plan includes replacing each of the 232 units with newly-built affordable housing and building approximately 400 additional mixed-income apartments. The redesign will feature a new community center and enhanced access to a nearby health center, shopping center, transit station, and a bike path. CSP will

gather input from residents through one-on-one surveying and feedback at regular community meetings throughout the entire process.

Urban Edge is one of 50 nonprofits to receive a total of \$6 million in funding through the Wells Fargo Foundation 2018 Priority Markets Program. The Priority Markets Program supports projects, programs and initiatives focused on neighborhood revitalization and helps remove barriers to sustainable housing in low- and moderate-income communities. Since 2009, the program has donated grants totaling \$54 million to nonprofits in more than 125 communities.

“Urban Edge shares our focus of strengthening communities through local neighborhood revitalization efforts in support of sustainable housing,” said Briana Curran, vice president of community relations for Wells Fargo in New England. “The impact of each dollar invested through this program will serve as a powerful example of the positive difference that can be achieved with thoughtful public-private collaboration.”

The redevelopment of the Mildred Hailey Apartments is part of the Jackson Square Redevelopment Initiative (JSRI), a comprehensive, multi-phased venture that is one of the most significant community-driven neighborhood revitalization efforts in the United States. When this 20-year \$350 million transformation process is complete, a checkerboard of vacant and underutilized lots near a Massachusetts Bay Train Authority (MBTA) stop will be transformed into more than 1,600 new or renovated units of mixed-income housing, retail space, green space, and state-of-the-art educational/recreational facilities.

“We look forward to the transformation of the Mildred Hailey Apartments site, and welcome Wells Fargo into the partnership to ensure that our residents have the tools they need to help define the vision and future of the site,” said Kate Bennett, Senior Deputy Administrator at BHA.

Over the next year, CSP will create a resident and community-informed site plan as part of Phase I of the redevelopment.

//End

About Urban Edge

For over 40 years, Urban Edge has offered a range of innovative programs that help low and moderate income families in and around Boston become economically resilient, establish homeownership, and access needed community resources. Throughout its history, the organization has developed nearly 1,500 units of affordable housing, making it one of Boston’s largest nonprofit developers of affordable housing. Most recently, the agency has been a prime mover in the redevelopment of the Jackson Square neighborhood, creating new affordable

housing and commercial space along eight acres of land that border Roxbury and Jamaica Plain. For more information on Urban Edge, visit <http://www.urbanedge.org>.

About Wells Fargo

Wells Fargo & Company (NYSE: WFC) is a diversified, community-based financial services company with \$1.9 trillion in assets. Wells Fargo's vision is to satisfy our customers' financial needs and help them succeed financially. Founded in 1852 and headquartered in San Francisco, Wells Fargo provides banking, investment and mortgage products and services, as well as consumer and commercial finance, through 8,050 locations, 13,000 ATMs, the internet (wellsfargo.com) and mobile banking, and has offices in 38 countries and territories to support customers who conduct business in the global economy. With approximately 265,000 team members, Wells Fargo serves one in three households in the United States. Wells Fargo & Company was ranked No. 26 on Fortune's 2018 rankings of America's largest corporations. News, insights and perspectives from Wells Fargo are also available at [Wells Fargo Stories](#).

About The Boston Housing Authority

Boston Housing Authority (BHA) provides affordable housing to more than 58,000 residents in and around the City of Boston. Residents are assisted through a combination of public housing and federal and state voucher subsidy programs that provide a wide variety of housing opportunities. As the largest public housing authority in New England, the BHA houses close to 9 percent of the city's residents. Our mission is to provide stable, quality affordable housing for low and moderate income persons; to deliver these services with integrity and mutual accountability; and to create living environments which serve as catalysts for the transformation from dependency to economic self-sufficiency.