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Commission helps expand Spokane Valley senior community

SEATTLE— Thanks to financing from the Washington State Housing Finance Commission and other partners, 24 affordable apartments for seniors will be added in the Spokane Valley.

Appleway Court, a [Rockwood Retirement](#) community, expects to begin construction on the three-story, 24-unit expansion this summer. Appleway Court currently offers 36 apartments for low-income seniors 62 and over and will expand its capacity by two thirds through this project.

The Commission financed the project by issuing \$2 million in tax-exempt bonds, combined with \$966,764 in housing tax credits for the developer. The Washington State Department of Commerce and Spokane County also helped with the financing.

“The Housing Finance Commission and their affordable housing program has been the ideal partner to make our senior facilities affordable to the residents in Spokane Valley,” said Alan Curryer, CEO of Rockwood Retirement Homes. “It’s great to have a funding partner like the Commission, who can work with us as a team and solve problems along the way.”

The Appleway Court expansion will add 16 one-bedroom and 8 two-bedroom units, all of which will be reserved for individuals and households with very low incomes.

It also adds a large community room and “warming kitchen” that will serve as a new dining area for the whole complex—which already features a below-cost beauty salon, a computer lab and a fitness room.

The Housing Commission will monitor the facility for rent and income requirements and provide training and technical assistance to the owner and property manager for the next 30 years to ensure the housing remains safe and affordable for the life of the public investment.

“Senior housing is a key part of our mission, and we’re excited to be a part of making this housing possible for the Spokane Valley community,” said Karen Miller, chair of the Washington State Housing Finance Commission.

Spokane United Methodist Homes, doing business as Rockwood Retirement Homes, owns and operates [Appleway Court](#). Kiemie and Hagood Company of Spokane will provide property management services to the facilities.

In addition, [Community Frameworks](#), a Spokane nonprofit specializing in affordable housing, led the development process and, according to Curryer, was key to bringing the Appleway project to fruition.

According to the National Association of Home Builders, the 24 new construction units will provide 29 local construction jobs in the community, roughly \$1.9 million in taxes and wages in the local community, and approximately eight full-time community jobs through commerce and taxes.

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The Washington State Housing Finance Commission (www.wshfc.org) is a publicly accountable, self-supporting team, dedicated to increasing housing access and affordability, and to expanding the availability of quality community services for the people of Washington. The commission, which receives no regular state funding for its operations, works with lenders, investors, developers, nonprofit organizations, first-time homebuyers, beginning farmers and ranchers and energy companies to bring private investment dollars to benefit families and achieve public goals in Washington.



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