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For Immediate Release

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Prairie Meadows awards \$150,000 Legacy Grant to Anawim Housing Legacy Project

Des Moines—Prairie Meadows has awarded a \$150,000 Legacy Grant to Anawim Housing in support of the organization's Legacy Project. Prairie Meadows Legacy Grants play a major role in revitalizing the Greater Des Moines area by providing significant funds to projects that improve and positively impact the community we live in.

The Legacy Project is the first step in a collaborative multi-phase project to transform the 6th Avenue Corridor through new residential housing, commercial property and community space. This project aims to develop and strengthen the Greater Des Moines community and provide affordable housing options for the 61% Area Median Income families. "Anawim Housing's master concept for redevelopment along 6th Avenue will certainly spark a major renaissance for this neighborhood as well as positively impact a vital corridor for the City of Des Moines. The concept is also consistent with the recently published Housing Tomorrow Plan. It also provides impetus to the 6th Avenue Corridor plan we so desperately need in that area," said City Councilman Bill Gray.

The Prairie Meadows Legacy Grant will support the building of five townhomes which will be available to qualified families through Anawim Housing's model of market rate housing. The townhomes will be located at 1511-1521 6th Avenue, and will be an infill project replacing an empty lot and an inhabitable home. These townhomes will add more diverse housing options to the area and help beautify 6th Avenue.

Anawim Housing's history along 6th Avenue goes back nearly 30 years as they made some of their initial property investments; many of which were in dilapidated properties and properties with historical significance. With the support from the Prairie Meadows Legacy Grant, Anawim Housing plans to begin construction of the Legacy Project townhomes this fall.

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About Anawim Housing:

Anawim Housing was founded in 1987 by a group of community activists who recognized a need for stable, affordable housing to bridge the gap between shelters and home ownership. Sister Stella was Anawim Housing's first executive director, and ambitiously led Anawim with her belief that homes are not optional, that they are the foundation of every family and each individual's success. Today we still carry on that passion of home through Russ Frazier, who became President of Anawim Housing in 2010 when Sister Stella retired. Through him we continue to grow sustainably and provide even more homes to Des Moines area families in need. Since 1987, we have grown our portfolio to include townhomes, single family homes, duplexes and multi-family living – now totaling 739 units under Anawim Housing management.

Anawim Housing's mission is to develop stable homes and strengthen communities. We accomplish this through our four main areas: Permanent Supportive Housing, Supportive Housing Programs, Supportive Services, and Partner Services.

It is Anawim Housing's goal to meet the affordable housing needs of the community by increasing and preserving the supply of quality affordable housing.

About Prairie Meadows Legacy Grants:

Prairie Meadows supports a limited number of large-scale signature projects in the state of Iowa through their Legacy Grant Program. This program is designed to provide funding in the range of \$100,000 to \$1 million. Each application is carefully evaluated on overall community impact. Funding from the grant program has played a major role in revitalizing the Greater Des Moines area. Projects that have received funding from Prairie Meadows Legacy Grants include: The Principal Riverwalk, Pappajohn Sculpture Garden, Iowa Hall of Pride Museum, High Trestle Trail, and the Des Moines Public Library.