

### About Urban Edge

Urban Edge is a nonprofit community development organization with a mission dedicated to strengthening communities and families. Together, we build affordable housing and vibrant, prosperous neighborhoods. Located where Boston's Latin Quarter meets its historic African-American neighborhood at the crossroads of Jamaica Plain and Roxbury in Jackson Square, our goal is to foster diverse urban neighborhoods of choice populated by resilient families and sustained by dynamic webs of community relationships.

To achieve this goal: **we build** quality affordable housing for low and moderate income households; **we advise** hardworking families on homeowner services, financial education, tax assistance, and student loan counseling; and **we organize** neighbors to become leaders of community change. In 1974, redlining, real estate speculation, and displacement of low and moderate income families were tearing at the fabric of Boston communities. Determined resident opposition had succeeded in halting the extension of I-95 through the City, but the urban landscape sustained the scars of cleared land, with large tracts devoid of homes and businesses. That's when Boston community leaders came together and founded Urban Edge to rebuild and revitalize these damaged neighborhoods on the "urban edge."

### Community Investment Plan 2017

Our Community Investment Plan for 2017 mirrors the five intended outcomes of our 2015-2020 Strategic Plan: *Egleston and Jackson Squares are destination neighborhoods in the City of Boston; Urban Edge's integrated programs in economic resiliency, education, and public health/wellness strengthen families and youth, who are the bedrock of our community; Neighborhood real estate markets meet the housing demands of all families; A strong partnership between a committed Board of Directors and high performing professional staff drives an aggressive community development agenda; and Urban Edge's high quality performance and innovation is widely recognized, resulting in increased resources to serve our community.* At the end of 2017, our efforts will result in more than 4,000 families that we will serve this year celebrating the following.

- 600 families receiving tax prep. services
- 200 individuals screened for, and 40 enrolled in, public benefits
- 100 households counseled on family financial literacy and budgeting
- 800 First-Time Homebuyer workshop graduates—200 becoming new homeowners
- 90 homeowners counseled through our foreclosure prevention program—with 60 avoiding foreclosure
- 120 borrowers counseled on alleviating student loan debt
- 120 "Credit Counseling Boot Camp" graduates
- 30 youth placed into summer jobs
- 1,500 families with new back-to-school supplies, children's holiday gifts, and Thanksgiving turkeys
- 50 families participating in a study that measures the impact our housing support services has on their health
- 20 families bonding with each other and preparing their children for Pre-K
- 400 pledges to vote in the 2017 election
- 60 new families receiving a "welcome to Urban Edge housing" visit
- 100 residents engaged in community leadership opportunities
- 99 affordable rental units in the renovation pipeline
- 112 affordable rental units in the new construction pipeline
- An average occupancy rate of 98%
- A 25% reduction in resident rent arrearages

*For more information, please contact Michael Rousseau at (617) 989-9363 or [mrousseau@urbanedge.org](mailto:mrousseau@urbanedge.org).*