



# From **Run-Down Public Housing Complex** to **Safe, Sustainable Community**

Highland Park, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

## Since their construction in 1967, 2 large, 12-story apartment buildings towered over Milwaukee's urban landscape.

Many low-income residents depended on the buildings for affordable housing. However, the design of the buildings blocked access to the road and the rest of the neighborhood—isolating its residents. As a result, by the 1990s, Highland Park was plagued by urban crime. Residents experienced lower quality of life and lacked physical safety.

In 2002, the city received its first federal grant to begin revitalizing the neighborhood. Planners took a bold step by making community health a primary focus of the new facility and designated the towers as residences for the elderly and disabled.



### **Positive health impacts** of Highland Park redevelopment include:

- ✓ Providing safe, affordable, "green" housing
- ✓ Meeting the needs of elderly and disabled residents
- ✓ Improving neighborhood walkability and access to services



### **Funding:**

- The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HOPE VI Revitalization Grant
- Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority
- Private Donor



Photo: <http://korom.com>

### **For the full story, visit:**

[http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/sites/brownfields/docs/ATSDR\\_LandReuse.pdf](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/sites/brownfields/docs/ATSDR_LandReuse.pdf)



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