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## Affordable housing project for LGBTQ+ seniors breaks ground

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Two nonprofit organizations teamed up to break ground on the Residences at Equality Park, a Wilton Manors affordable housing project that will cater to LGBTQ+ seniors.

Miami-based affordable housing developer Carrfour Supportive Housing joined with the Pride Center at Equality Park, which has its community center at that location, for the development at 2040 N. Dixie Highway.

This is the first project in Broward County for Carrfour.

The project will have 48 units, ranging from studios to two bedrooms. They will reserve 34 units for low-income people ages 55 and up with a disabling condition. On-site support will be provided to treat residents' health issues.

“There’s a growing need for affordable housing in South Florida, particularly among underserved populations such as the senior LGBTQ+ community and those living with disabilities,” said Stephanie Berman, president and CEO of Carrfour Supportive Housing. “Beyond providing a place to call home, Carrfour will partner with The Pride Center to ensure that residents at The Residences at Equality Park have



CARRFOUR SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

The Residences at Equality Park in Wilton Manors will have 48 affordable units for LGBTQ+ seniors.

convenient access to community services, healthcare, financial planning, and social networks that combat isolation.”

Forty-three units will be for those earning no more than 60% of the area's median income, and the other five will be for people earning no more than 33% of the median income. That equates to rents of \$350 to \$1,029.

Amenities will include a fitness center, a library and a computer room. The five-acre Equality Park campus already has offices and meeting space for community organizations. Over 35,000 people attended events there in 2018.

The Residences at Equality Park should be completed by the end of 2020.

“There’s not a week that goes by when I don’t receive multiple phone calls from community members wanting to know when they can get on a wait list,” said Robert Boo, CEO of the Pride Center. “The Residences at Equality Park is the culmination of a multi-year process of community assessment and strategic planning in which we’re responding to a direct, community-requested, prioritized need.”

The second phase of the project is slated for 74 units.

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