

DePaul Expanding to West Seneca

DePaul Community Services Inc. has been approved to build a 109-square foot, 100-unit incomeeligible apartment complex in West Seneca and plans are to get shovels in the ground early next year, possibly March 2015.

Gillian Conde, vice president of DePaul Properties, said that this project – Ebenezer Square – has been in the works since 2008.

"The challenge with doing housing like this project is finding a site that really will be an asset to the tenants upon completion," Conde said, "and be close to stores, and banks, and pharmacies and all the amenities that we all use on a daily basis. That's not as easy as it sounds. It's actually quite a challenge."

DePaul chose West Seneca for their location based on a combination of market studies and local feedback from the Riverside Apartments they opened in Buffalo in March. Conde also points to Western New York's need for affordable housing.

"Nothing stabilizes poverty like housing," she said. "Sometimes people with limited income have less resources. We can help people avoid homelessness."

Ebenezer Square is a \$20-million project that will sustain 100 construction jobs through Calamar during the demolition and construction phases and bring 35 full-time and 25 part-time positions to area.

"It will be an economic engine for the area," Conde said. "We also pride ourselves on hiring from the neighborhood."



Samantha Wulff

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