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National Public Housing Museum hosts “Telling Stories, Telling Belongings” Event at ABLA
NPHM Excited to Partner with Jane Addams Hull-House in Event Featuring ABLA Public Housing Residents and Their Stories in the Roosevelt Square Neighborhood

Chicago, IL: The National Public Housing Museum is excited to plan an event in concert with the Jane Addams Hull-House Museum and ABLA public housing and Roosevelt Square residents for an evening of storytelling through objects on Thursday, March 24th from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm.

The gathering will take place at the newly renovated Jane Addams Resource Center located at 1254 S. Loomis Street at ABLA, the Local Advisory Council for the collection of current and former CHA properties – Addams Homes, Brooks Homes, Loomis Courts, and Abbot Homes.

The event will feature storytellers of ABLA public housing residents who will bring an object to help tell their story about living in public housing in a relaxed “show and tell” format. Community members from Roosevelt Square are also encouraged to come and tell their stories through cherished objects.

Jennifer Scott, the moderator of the event and the Executive Director of the Jane Addams Hull-House Museum, is excited about the evening, noting the inclusion of this program as a part of the National Endowment for the Humanities initiative, *Making the West Side: Community Conversations on Neighborhood Change*, “We are thrilled to partner with the National Public Housing Museum on the first of a series of community conversations as part of *Making The West Side*, a year long project that brings together institutions across Chicago's West Side to bring historic narrative in conversation with present day neighborhood change.”

When asked about the significance of objects in storytelling in helping encourage a shared history, Associate Director and Curator of the National Public Housing Museum, Todd Palmer states, "Stories change the narrative, and even the most mundane belongings serve tangibly to connect us to individual recollections. These objects remind us that our stories unfold in the shared places and spaces of everyday life."

The general public is welcome to attend the event where light refreshments will be available to enjoy from local food vendors including Scafuri Bakery in Little Italy.

About the National Public Housing Museum: The NPHM is the first cultural institution in the United States dedicated to interpreting the American experience in public housing. The Museum draws on the power of place and memory to illuminate the resilience of the poor and working class families of every race and ethnicity to realize the promise of America. It seeks to open its permanent home in the last extant building of the Jane Addams Homes which will begin construction this year.