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PRESS RELEASE

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Boston Road Senior Center Re-opened by DFTA, NYCHA

State-of-the art center now includes added benefits for seniors, including exercise and fitness rooms, and activities like Tai Chi and computer instruction

New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) Chairman Tino Hernandez and Commissioner Edwin Méndez-Santiago, LCSW today announced the reopening of the Boston Road Senior Center in the Bronx. The Center, sponsored by Regional Aid for Interim Needs (RAIN), had been closed for renovation since 2003 with uninterrupted service offered to seniors in the interim at a nearby community center. The renovation added 3,950 sq. ft. of space to the center which can now offer additional services like Tai Chi, computer instruction, and a fitness center. Approximately 150 seniors use the center on daily basis. Joining the Commissioner and the Chairman were Council Members Maria del Carmen Arroyo and James Vacca, RAIN Executive Director Louis Vasquez, and Boston Road Senior Center Director Rosemary Durso.

"The Boston Road Senior Center best exemplifies what seniors want in their centers today—a variety of programs such as Tai Chi, aerobics, and other wellness activities in a warm, socially supportive environment," Commissioner Mendez-Santiago said. "This senior center will be a vibrant, community hub where our seniors will truly benefit from a diverse array of programs, services and opportunities for active engagement in their community. I want to thank Chairman Hernandez, Council Members Arroyo and Vacca, and RAIN's Executive Director Louis Vasquez for all their support during this renovation."

"With seniors our fastest-growing population, we have kept in mind the specialized needs that they have and how best to serve those needs," said Chairman Hernandez. "This center clearly demonstrates that NYCHA, DFTA and our partner RAIN understand how to provide a facility that responds to today's and tomorrow's seniors. This is a special place for the senior residents of the Bronx."

The Boston Road Senior Center was renovated with \$2.78 million from the City Council and \$3 million from the federal government. The Senior Center is a multi-service facility that serves over 150 seniors daily. The center is located within Boston Road Plaza Development, which includes a 20-story, seniors-only building managed by Pelham Parkway Houses. The center hosts a variety of activities including aerobics, arts and crafts, computer training, fitness classes, karaoke, knitting, and Tai Chi.

RAIN was founded in 1964 and today serves over 30,000 seniors in the Bronx and Upper Manhattan. RAIN also sponsors six other senior centers. The organization also serves as a Senior Options home delivered meals provider, serving approximately 1,500 homebound seniors in the Bronx.

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