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Layton Boulevard West Neighbors Receives \$112,000 Grant from Wells Fargo to Support Neighborhood Revitalization Projects

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 12, 2011 – Layton Boulevard West Neighbors, Inc. (LBWN) will receive a \$112,000 grant from Wells Fargo as part of its *Leading the Way Home*® Program Priority Markets Initiative to help stabilize and revitalize neighborhoods hard-hit by the economy.

The funds will be used for LBWN's *Turnkey Renovation Program* to purchase vacant foreclosed homes and renovate them with an emphasis on energy saving improvements while restoring the craftsmanship that went into the housing stock. The completed home is sold at an affordable price to an owner occupant, with the new homeowner enjoying low utility bills due to the energy efficiencies and a turnkey home that is ready to move into.

“This funding will allow us to install additional energy efficiencies and renewable energy options on our Turnkey Homes,” said Charlotte John-Gomez, executive director for LBWN. “This is an important strategy for creating sustainable homeownership opportunities. We appreciate Wells Fargo’s investment in our work and in our neighborhoods.”

“This grant represents a continuation of ongoing efforts where we’ve joined together with effective organizations like Layton Boulevard to make a positive difference for our neighborhoods,” said Fred Bertoldo, regional president for Wells Fargo’s Wisconsin/Michigan/Chicago region.

Wells Fargo team members have previously partnered with LBWN in facilitating homebuyer and financial literacy workshops, as well as housing resource workshops with several churches in the community.

Wells Fargo’s *Leading the Way Home* Priority Markets Initiative provides grant support for neighborhood stabilization projects that are located in areas designated for revitalization to stimulate growth, stability and investment in distressed areas. This \$112,000 grant is part of \$5.53 million in grants recently awarded for 52 nonprofits and government entities with successful histories of building or renovating housing for low- to moderate-income homebuyers. The Wells Fargo Housing Foundation has stewarded more than \$82 million and 4.5 million team member volunteer hours in support of creating affordable housing and community revitalization programs.

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