

Housing authority announced \$10 million funding boost

FITCHBURG » On Dec. 19, the Fitchburg Housing Authority announced it would be the recipient of more than \$10 million to transform Wallace Tower into a model for affordable living for seniors and those with disabilities.

About \$8 million will come from the state's Modernizing Public Housing And Supporting Elders initiative, which launched in 2016 to improve and preserve

public housing around the commonwealth.

This wasn't the housing authority's only major announcement this year, as it celebrated funding awards on two other occasions.

On Aug. 16, the housing authority announced it would be receiving a state grant of about \$625,000 to complete some much needed energy-efficient upgrades to the homes at Canton Valley Terrace.

The project will replace roofs, sliding doors, and upgrade interior and exterior lighting at the 48-family development built in 1957.

The housing authority also announced on Dec. 11 that it would be receiving \$500,000 in funding from the Massachusetts Department of Housing & Community Development.

The Accessible Unit Initiative grant will remodel some of the units at the Durkin Apartments to make them more accessible for those with physical limitations. Bushman said there will soon be a total of nine ADA units.

In addition, it will provide funding to remove common hallway and door barriers.