

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Hartford is Home: SINA Celebrates New Homeownership Opportunities on Zion Street**

Hartford, CT, April 30, 2026

The Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance (SINA), a partnership between Connecticut Children's, Hartford Hospital, and Trinity College, will host a ribbon cutting at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 30, 2026, at 199 Zion Street to celebrate the completion of four new homes on Zion Street, creating new homeownership opportunities for low- and moderate-income first-time homebuyers.

The homes, located at 199 and 205 Zion Street represent SINA's 91st and 92nd completed homes, with two additional homes soon to follow at 570 and 578 Zion Street. Together, these homes reflect nearly five decades of sustained investment in the Frog Hollow, Barry Square, South Green, and Behind the Rocks neighborhoods and SINA's long-standing commitment to expanding access to homeownership.

"These homes represent far more than new construction," said Logan Singerman, Executive Director of SINA. "They represent families putting down roots, neighbors building connections, and the long-term commitment it takes to transform a neighborhood - neighbor by neighbor, building by building, block by block."

All four properties were constructed on formerly vacant lots acquired by SINA from the City of Hartford. With these homes completed, nearly all remaining vacant lots on Zion Street have now been filled, with one final parcel already in SINA's pipeline for future development.

Two of the homes, located at 570 and 578 Zion Street near Park Street, were built within a historic district and reflect historic architectural design, while the homes at 199 and 205 Zion Street feature a more modern style. All four homes are under contract facilitated by Tobello Real Estate Advisors. They will be sold to first-time homebuyers of low and moderate income, creating opportunities for stability, long-term wealth building, and community connection.

This project was made possible through \$1 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding from the City of Hartford. Millenium Construction was an important partner that supported the construction process.

For nearly 50 years, SINA has worked at the intersection of institutions and community—bringing together major anchor institutions with neighborhood residents to strengthen quality of life in South Central Hartford. This work recognizes that strong neighborhoods are built not only through investment in buildings, but through investment in people.

Access to safe, stable housing plays a critical role in health, educational attainment, and economic opportunity. By creating homeownership pathways, SINA is helping address a key challenge facing Hartford: ensuring that families who want to stay and build their lives in the city have the opportunity to do so.

“What was once a vacant lot—often a site of illegal dumping—is now a place where families will celebrate milestones, build relationships, and create a future,” Singerman added. “That transformation—from liability to launchpad—is what building a better neighborhood looks like.”

The homes also sit at the base of College Terrace, ceremonially named Ivan Backer Way in honor of SINA’s founder. Backer’s vision centered on building bridges—between institutions and residents, and between communities and opportunity. These homes stand as a visible expression of that vision. Each day, residents, students, and neighbors passing along College Terrace will see more than new homes—they will see how a community working together can bring that vision to life.

**Speakers at the event will include:**

Arunan Arulampalam, Mayor, City of Hartford  
Daniel Lugo, President, Trinity College  
David Fichandler, Vice President of Administration, Hartford Hospital  
Luis Rivera, Community Relations Manager, Connecticut Children’s  
Paula Abreu, SINA Board Member and Behind the Rocks resident

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**About SINA**

The Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance (SINA) is a partnership between Connecticut Children’s Medical Center, Hartford Hospital, and Trinity College. SINA’s mission is to work cooperatively with community stakeholders to restore economic vitality and improve the quality of life for the benefit of the people who live, work, visit, study, and play in the neighborhoods of South Central Hartford.