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Supportive housing facility opens in Perry

By Jonathan D. Epstein (https://buffalonews.com/author/jonathan_d-_epstein/)

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DePaul Properties, a Rochester-based social-services agency, has completed its \$17 million redevelopment of a former clothing manufacturing facility into 48 affordable housing apartments in Wyoming County.

The nonprofit formally opened its new Knitting Mill Apartments in the Village of Perry this week, with more than half of the units reserved for individuals eligible for supportive services and job training to promote stability, health and independent living. The apartments are open to households with incomes at or below 60% of the area median income, with 34 set aside for those with a history of homelessness.

Originally built for the Perry Knitting Co. in 1882 as Mill No. 1 and operated until that company closed in 1914, the facility later became a manufacturing plant for sportswear apparel company Champion Products for 70 years. It now features a community room, lounges, computer labs, laundry rooms, shared outdoor space and offices, in addition to the apartments.

The project – part of the state's Finger Lakes Forward initiative to help local residents stay in their communities and live independently – was financed with \$11 million in equity from federal low-income housing tax credits, plus \$4.1 million from New York State Homes and Community Renewal's Supportive Housing Opportunity Program and \$251,000 in grants. Rent subsidies and annual services totaling \$850,000 will be provided through the Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative, which is part of Gov. Andrew Cuomo's \$20 billion, five-year housing plan.

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(https://buffalonews.com/author/jonathan_d-_epstein/) **Jonathan D. Epstein**– Jonathan Epstein is a business reporter at The Buffalo News, where he covers commercial and residential real estate and development. He has worked at The News since 2004.

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