

THE REAL REPORT

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at 25 Shawmut Rd. for its own purposes. Efforts to contact officials at the group's current headquarters in downtown Boston were unsuccessful. Also unavailable was JMS Realty principal **James M. Salah**, whose company guided the ambitious project at the erstwhile **Shawmut Industrial Park** from design to completion.

Although a major occupier of inventory nationally for its distribution centers, thrift stores and operating facilities, the SA's CRE activities in Greater Boston have been unusually busy this summer, headlined by the \$23.5 million sale of two Back Bay buildings, including 147 Berkeley St., that have been the agency's long-time Boston headquarters. As first detailed by **therealreporter.com** on July 6th, the purchase by neighbor **Liberty Mutual Insurance Co.** was among Boston's largest investment sales this summer for an arena that has been diminished greatly by the debt drought and market downturn.

Founder's Keepers

BOSTON—While perhaps best known on a

national scale, **The Salvation Army** is certainly not alone waging the never-ending campaign against poverty in Massachusetts, and one of the more resilient such groups is the **Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership**. Having marked its 25th anniversary this year, MBHP is preparing for its second annual **Founder's Event** to be held Nov. 17th at the **State Street Financial Center** at One Lincoln St.

MBHP's only fundraiser for the year, the program is of critical import to continuing its mission to end homelessness, explains **Director of Development Carla Bennett**. Not surprisingly, the situation is especially dire in the down economy, as reductions in government funding collide with a decrease in private assistance. The double-whammy "makes it imperative that MBHP meets its fundraising goal," relays Bennett, who can be contacted at 617-425-6705 for further information.

The gala that kicked off last November as a tribute to MBHP founder and **State Street Bank Chairman William S. Edgerley** is also seen as an opportunity to thank individuals and organizations for their tireless efforts to assist on the housing front. This year, for example, the focus is on 10 financial institutions and a cadre

of community development corporations who have fought to preserve more than 900 affordable apartments in Boston, an endeavor that has now lasted for two decades.

According to MBHP, the event will honor "forward-thinking investors for their vision, generosity and dedication to Boston's affordable housing market." In addition to State Street Bank & Trust, lenders to be recognized include the **Bank of America** and **Bank of New York/Mellon**, **Boston Safe Deposit & Trust Co.** and **Citizens Bank**. Others being feted are the **John Hancock**, **MetLife** and **Prudential** insurance companies, **Novogradac Housing Partners** and the **TJX Cos.**

The CDCs who will be acknowledged for "their long-term commitment to affordable housing and to their communities" feature the **Codman Square Neighborhood Development Corp.**, the **Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corp.**, the **Fields Corner CDC** and the **Lena Park CDC**. **Nuestra Comunidad Development Corp.**, the **Quincy-Geneva CDC** and **Urban Edge** round out the roster of organizations credited with preserving the 900-plus apartments. ■

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