

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 11, 2014 Contact: Paige Thayer 413-209-8808 pthayer@developspringfield.com

DevelopSpringfield Announces Grant for Façade Improvements for 1095 Main Street

DevelopSpringfield announced that it has awarded a \$20,000 grant for facade improvements to 1095 Main Street, property owned by 1095 Main Street Irrevocable Trust. Building tenants include Square One Family Center and Santos Family Chiropractic. The grant is made possible under DevelopSpringfield's Corridor Storefront Improvement Program which provides grants of up to \$10,000 per storefront for exterior improvements to first floor businesses located on State and Main Streets in Springfield.

The recently awarded funds were used to revitalize and repair the existing façade and included new windows, doors, and signage. The grant is supporting a substantial investment for improvements to the building by the property owner.

"This project represents well over \$100,000 in capital improvements to the façade of this building," said Ralph Capua of 1095 Main Street Irrevocable Trust. "It's an example of our commitment to bringing business back to the South End and allows for additional leasing opportunities for prospective business owners."

The project shows a strong commitment to revitalization in the South End of Springfield, an area devastated by the June 2011 tornado. Improvements to this structure made it possible for Square One, an organization who lost their permanent location after the tornado and was further displaced by the natural gas explosion in November of 2012, to find their new home. The Square One Family Center celebrated the opening of their facility at 1095 Main Street in September of 2013. It is also an example of a key initiative of the Rebuild Springfield Plan to focus on strategic redevelopment in this area.

DevelopSpringfield's Corridor Storefront Improvement Program was established in 2009 to enhance the visual appeal of State and Main Streets while providing assistance to businesses making investments in these two key corridors within the city. For more information on the Corridor Storefront Improvement Program, go to



<u>www.developspringfield.com</u> and click on "programs" or contact Jay Minkarah, DevelopSpringfield President and CEO, at (413) 209-8808 or by email at <u>jminkarah@developspringfield.com</u>.

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About DevelopSpringfield

DevelopSpringfield was formed in 2008 as a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) corporation to advance development and redevelopment projects, to stimulate and support economic growth, and to expedite the revitalization process within the City of Springfield. The organization's board of directors includes representatives from the city, state, and local business community. The organization's mission is to help create conditions that encourage private development with a bricks-and-mortar focus and always with an eye toward understanding and meeting Springfield's unique and diverse redevelopment needs.