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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Denver Housing Authority Announces Opening of Decatur Fresh Market in the Sun Valley Neighborhood of Denver on November 2nd**

*New market located in food desert will bring affordable, nutritious and international food options to the Sun Valley community as well as job training and opportunities and community space*

**Denver, Colo., Oct. 27, 2021** – [Denver Housing Authority](#) (DHA) just announced [Decatur Fresh Market](#), operating under the Youth Employment Academy (YEA), will open in the Sun Valley neighborhood of West Denver on November 2nd at 7:00am. Decatur Fresh is an international grocery market, workforce training program, and community space for the Sun Valley Neighborhood and broader West Denver community. Located in a food desert, the 1,800 square foot market will bring affordable, nutritious, and international food options to the community. In addition, Decatur Fresh, working in conjunction with YEA, will provide a paid training and internship program for Sun Valley residents interested in growing their careers in customer service or grocery store management. Decatur Fresh is located at 995 N. Decatur Street in Denver.

“Sun Valley is home to 2,000 residents who, until the opening of Decatur Fresh Market, didn't have access to a grocery store within 2.5 miles,” said David Nisivoccia, executive director of Denver Housing Authority. “Our goal is for the market to become a cultural destination that celebrates and preserves Sun Valley’s diversity and unique fabric, and for the market to also serve as a shared community space.”

Decatur Fresh Market will offer culturally relevant bulk dry goods and spices, produce, meat and dairy products, frozen items, grab and go breakfast and lunch, coffee, juice bar, household staples, and other items. The store will partner with the Osage Café and the Sun Valley Grow Garden to offer fresh, seasonal produce and weekly specials, like breakfast and grab-and-go lunch options.

Decatur Fresh will operate a paid training internship program for youth, ages 14 to 24, interested in retail management and customer service. Residents receive necessary certifications in a classroom setting, complete a 120-hour internship, build concrete skillsets in food retail and work with Decatur Fresh staff to determine their next educational or career opportunity.

The market features a mural along the southern facing facade that was created by Arts Street. The original design of the mural was created by Jada King, a Sun Valley youth. The Sun Valley cohort for Arts Street painted it and each youth painted a different vegetable in the mural to make it their own.



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The market will be open Tuesday through Sunday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. The coffee shop will be open from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, visit <http://decaturfresh.com>

### **About Decatur Fresh Market**

Decatur Fresh is a grocery market, workforce training program and community space. The 1,800 square foot space offers local residents affordable, culturally relevant and nutritious food options. Located in a food desert, the market serves almost 2,000 Sun Valley residents, local nonprofits, and the broader Denver community. Decatur Fresh is committed to combating inequities in food and providing international and fresh food options in Denver's most diverse neighborhood.

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### **About Denver Housing Authority**

The Denver Housing Authority is a quasi-municipal corporation with a portfolio of over 12,000 units an About Denver Housing Authority (DHA)

Denver Housing Authority is a quasi-municipal corporation with a portfolio of over 12,000 units and housing choice vouchers, providing affordable housing to more than 26,000 very low-, low- and middle-income individuals. DHA has transformed public housing in Denver creating vibrant, revitalized, sustainable, transit oriented, and mixed-income community of choice. DHA's vision reflects the goal that every individual or family shall have access to quality and affordable housing, in communities offering empowerment, economic opportunity, and a vibrant living environment. Denver Housing Authority's mission is to serve the residents of Denver by developing, owning, and operating safe, decent and affordable housing in a manner that promotes thriving communities. DHA has been creating vibrant communities and sustainable neighborhoods since 1938. For more information, visit [www.denverhousing.org](http://www.denverhousing.org).

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### **About the Youth Employment Academy**

The Youth Employment Academy (YEA) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to empowering young adults in marginalized communities to reach their education and employment goals. YEA offers



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employment training in three core industry areas: Culinary Arts, Customer Service, and the Creative Industries. For each industry focus area, YEA has a revenue-generating social enterprise or program that provides training, certification, mentorships and internships for youth participants. Since 2007, YEA has served over 4,000 youth ages 14 – 24 throughout the Denver metro area. YEA's participants are from the most underserved and marginalized communities.

For more information on YEA, please visit [www.youthemploymentacademy.org](http://www.youthemploymentacademy.org).

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