

## Agency gets new name, new Web site

### Local housing agency boosts online presence

By DAN MAGAZU  
dmagazu@manchestexpress.com

Officials from NeighborWorks Greater Manchester recently unveiled a revamped Web site that allows residents to register for free homeownership courses.

Formerly Manchester Neighborhood Housing Services, officials at the organization launched the new Web site in conjunction with the group's name change.

Founded in 1992, the group helps low-income residents become homeowners.

As part of that service, every few weeks it offers free courses to inform residents how to achieve homeownership on a limited budget.

The new Web site, [www.nwgreatermanchester.org](http://www.nwgreatermanchester.org), displays the schedule of the courses and allows people to register online, according to Michelle Caraccio, the group's resource development manager.

"It also contains more information on who we are and

**"On the site, specific information can be found on projects the group currently has underway, including the \$10 million renovation of the Silver Mill or the recently completed Straw Mansion apartment complex."**

what we do," Caraccio said. "It has pictures and stories about the families we have helped to purchase homes."

The group also offers landlord workshops and one-on-one counseling.

Caraccio said that the original Web site was built less as a tool and more as a way to have a presence online.

"Our new site takes it to the next step," Caraccio said. "It is much more user-friendly and can be really useful."

On the site, specific information can be found on projects the group currently has underway, including the \$10 million renovation of the Silver Mill or the recently completed Straw Mansion apartment complex.

Both buildings offer housing reserved for low-income families.

But Caraccio said the most interesting information on the site relates to the people the group has helped.

"We're much more than buildings," Caraccio said. "We're about people."

The group has a staffer that keeps the Web site updated.

"The Web site is now one of our high priorities, which is a bit of a change," Caraccio said.

The organization assists people in the entire Greater Manchester area, a fact that caused officials to change its name.

"People think of us as just a city organization," executive director Robert Tourigny said. "We want to be the go-to regional resource."

SilverTech Inc. of Manchester designed the new Web site.