

Diane Becker
Communications Director

dbecker@ci.norfolk.ne.us

For Immediate Release: December 27, 2016
"HOME- Home Ownership Made Easy"



HOME

A new program, "Home Ownership Made Easy" (HOME), is helping low to moderate income

families buy homes in the Norfolk area. City of Norfolk Housing Division Director Gary Hilkemann and Housing Coordinator Gary Bretschneider have built and sold one home and are currently building another home – both on empty unused lots in Norfolk.

"There is a desperate need for housing in Norfolk and this is one small way the Housing Division and Norfolk Housing Agency can help," Hilkemann said.

The house on Verges Avenue has 1,064 square feet with two bedrooms, two bathrooms and three egress basement windows. The home was sold for \$130,000 with an allowance built in for floor coverings and appliances. The family who bought the home qualified for financial assistance as their gross income was 80% or less of the median income in Norfolk. For a family of five to qualify for assistance, the total family annual income would be \$52,300 or less. For a

family of four that would be \$48,400.

"We work with a potential home buyer through the financial process. If they qualify as a low to moderate income family, we can get them a 0% interest loan for the down payment," Hilkemann said.

Another home is currently being built on 8th Street and Pasewalk Avenue. It's expected that the home will sell for about \$130,000 also to a low to moderate income family.

"If anyone is interested in this home or other homes that we plan to build in the future, they need to come to the housing offices at 110 North 4th Street or call 402-844-2080. We can start the process of

seeing whether they qualify or not for the HOME program and if they do qualify, we can put them on a list for a home in the future they could buy," Hilkemann said.