Sequoia Belle Haven represents the first phase of the revitalization of Gateway Apartments in Menlo Park. Originally developed in the 1960s, Gateway included 130 units on two city blocks serving both seniors and families. MidPen acquired the community in 1987 and invested in a light rehab at that time, followed by a significant redevelopment of one of Gateway’s blocks in 2016 – renamed Sequoia Belle Haven. The new community provides 90 new affordable apartments for the original senior population as well as new senior residents.

The opportunity to increase the number of affordable units from 48 to 90, for a net of 42 additional affordable apartments, was made possible in 2013 when the City of Menlo Park rezoned Sequoia Belle Haven’s site for higher density. The design of the community supports the goal of healthy living, with a continuous pathway connecting outdoor gathering spaces, common spaces, and protected courtyards. The community employs several green features, such as photovoltaic solar panels, high-efficiency windows and solar hot water systems, Energy Star appliances, and drought-tolerant landscaping. Sequoia Belle Haven also includes: a community room for large gatherings, a lounge, a computer lab, an exercise room, and two laundry rooms.

Through a network of service providers, MidPen Services will coordinate onsite programs designed to help residents live healthy, independent lives.