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MassHousing Awards \$300,000 for Affordable Sober Housing *Funding will benefit sober programs in Brockton, Lowell, Springfield and Worcester*

BOSTON – November 22, 2011 – MassHousing has awarded \$300,000 in financing to help create or preserve affordable sober housing in Brockton, Lowell, Springfield and Worcester.

The MassHousing grants will come from the Center for Community Recovery Innovations, Inc. (CCRI), a nonprofit subsidiary corporation of MassHousing that creates and preserves affordable sober housing in Massachusetts for recovering substance abusers. CCRI to date has awarded nearly \$6 million in grants for more than 1,400 units of substance-free housing in more than 30 communities for men, women, families, veterans, the homeless and ex-offenders.

"Having an affordable place to live in a sober setting is critical for people trying to overcome substance abuse," said MassHousing Executive Director Thomas R. Gleason. "By helping to provide the resources they need to overcome addiction, these men and women can return as healthy and productive members of our Commonwealth."

Receiving grants in the latest round of CCRI funding are:

- **EMH Recovery, Brockton**, \$75,000 to help create six new units of affordable sober housing for women at the EMH Recovery Graduate House.
- **Lowell House, Inc., Lowell**, \$75,000 to help create 10 new units of sober housing for women at Saving Grace.
- **Puerto Rican Veterans Association of Massachusetts, Springfield**, \$75,000 to help create 19 new units of affordable sober housing for male and female veterans as Cass Street Veterans Housing.
- **Community Healthlink, Inc., Worcester**, \$75,000 to help preserve 11 units of affordable sober housing for women and men.

About CCRI

The Center For Community Recovery Innovations, Inc., issues an annual Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit projects for funding. The proposals that are selected need to meet CCRI's current priorities and eligibility categories. The grants are typically used as one-time gap funding for capital projects that increase or improve the stock of affordable sober housing in Massachusetts. Other proposals that provide services for residents in MassHousing-financed rental housing, specifically those that address alcohol and/or drug abuse or addiction, are also considered for funding.

About MassHousing

Celebrating its 45th anniversary, MassHousing (The Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency) is an independent, quasi-public agency created in 1966 and charged with providing financing for affordable housing in Massachusetts. The Agency raises capital by selling bonds and lends the proceeds to low- and moderate-income homebuyers and homeowners, and to developers who build or preserve affordable and/or mixed-income rental housing. MassHousing does not use taxpayer dollars to sustain its operations, although it administers some publicly funded programs on behalf of the Commonwealth. Since its inception, MassHousing has provided more than \$13 billion for affordable housing. For more information, visit the MassHousing website at www.masshousing.com, follow us on Twitter [@MassHousing](https://twitter.com/MassHousing), subscribe to [our blog](#) and [Like us](#) on Facebook.