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## MassHousing Awards \$350,000 for Affordable Sober Housing

### *Funding will benefit sober programs in Boston, Chelmsford, Somerville and Westford*

BOSTON – May 21, 2012 – MassHousing has awarded \$350,000 in financing to help create 47 new units of affordable sober housing in Boston, Chelmsford, Somerville and Westford.

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 more than \$6 million in grants for more than 1,500 units of substance-free housing in more than 35 communities for men, women, families, veterans, the homeless and ex-offenders.

"These CCRI grants provide important funding to help people battling addiction find a quality place to live in a sober setting," said MassHousing Executive Director Thomas R. Gleason. "This latest round of grants will help veterans and young parents with children find a stable living environment so they can overcome substance abuse and lead healthy and productive lives."

Receiving grants in the latest round of CCRI funding are:

- **Roxbury Multi-Service Center, Boston**, \$125,000 to help create eight new apartments for homeless young parents in recovery and their children in Dorchester. Other financing partners include the state Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), the City of Boston and Boston Private Bank. Founded in 1964, the RMSC offers programs and services designed to empower the residents of Roxbury and North Dorchester to become economically and socially self-sufficient.
- **Chelmsford Housing Opportunities for Intergenerational and Community Endeavors (CHOICE), Chelmsford and Westford**, \$150,000 to help create eight efficiency units for veterans in Chelmsford and five apartments for veteran families in Westford. Other financing partners include DHCD, Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB), the towns of Chelmsford and Westford and local banks and foundations. CHOICE is a non-profit corporation dedicated to the betterment of all populations serviced by the Chelmsford Housing Authority.
- **Volunteers of America Massachusetts, Somerville**, \$75,000 to help create 26 units of affordable sober housing for homeless veterans. Other financing partners include DHCD, FHLB, the U.S. Veterans Administration and the City of Somerville. Volunteers of America is one of the nation's largest nonprofit providers of quality affordable housing for families, elderly, and people with disabilities. In Massachusetts they operate independent and assisted living residences as well as programs for adults dealing with substance abuse, those in need of mental health services, and at-risk youth.

***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. CCRI grant recipients must be 501c3 non-profit organizations and matching funds must be provided. All proposals and applicant qualifications are stringently reviewed and vetted by MassHousing.

***About MassHousing***

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](http://www.masshousing.com), follow us on Twitter [@MassHousing](https://twitter.com/MassHousing), subscribe to [our blog](#) and [Like us](#) on Facebook.

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