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## MassHousing Awards \$332,892 for Affordable Sober Housing

***Funding will help create or preserve 56 units of sober housing or provide services to people in recovery in Boston, Fall River, Haverhill, Lawrence, Palmer and Worcester***

BOSTON – November 24, 2015 – MassHousing has awarded \$332,892 to support affordable sober housing programs Boston, Fall River, Haverhill, Lawrence, Palmer and Worcester.

The MassHousing grants will come from the Center for Community Recovery Innovations, Inc. (CCRI), a nonprofit subsidiary corporation of MassHousing that supports non-profits that create or preserve affordable sober housing in Massachusetts for recovering substance abusers. CCRI to date has awarded more than \$8 million in grants for approximately 1,800 units of substance-free housing in more than 40 communities for men, women, families, veterans, the homeless and ex-offenders.

"These CCRI grants will help people fighting addiction and allow them to live in a sober setting to avoid homelessness," said MassHousing Executive Director Thomas R. Gleason. "Overcoming substance abuse and homelessness takes a community effort and these organizations are on the front lines of helping people get sober and reclaiming their lives."

Receiving grants in the latest round of CCRI funding are:

- **Community Healthlink, Inc.**, Worcester, \$75,000 to help rehabilitate and preserve 8 single room occupancy units of affordable sober housing for men and women.
- **Steppingstone Inc.**, Fall River, \$21,692 to help rehabilitate and preserve 10 units of single room occupancy affordable sober housing for men and women.
- **South Middlesex Non-Profit Housing Corporation**, Palmer, \$75,000 to help rehabilitate and preserve 18 units of single room occupancy affordable sober housing for men and women.
- **Self Esteem Boston Educational Institute**, Haverhill and Lawrence, \$20,200 to help fund the Skills for Success Capacity Building Initiative program to assist women and their children in recovery with life skills and support services.
- **Nueva Vida, Inc.**, Boston, \$41,000 to help rehabilitate and preserve Dunmore Place, an apartment building in Roxbury housing 6 families in recovery.
- **Oak Hill CDC**, Worcester, \$25,000 to help launch the Worcester Homeless Action Committee's Housing Stabilization Initiative to support the transition of people from shelters and transitional programs to sober and more permanent supportive housing in Worcester.

- **Victory Programs**, Boston, \$75,000 to help create 14 new units of affordable sober housing for women in Dorchester. Financing partners include the state Department of Housing and Community Development, Boston Department of Neighborhood Development and the state Department of Public Health. This project will help meet some of the need created by the closing of the Long Island shelter.

### ***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 \$18.5 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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