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MassHousing Awards \$180,000 for Sober Housing and Services for Women *Funding will benefit sober housing programs in Roxbury, New Bedford and Tewksbury*

BOSTON – May 12, 2010 – MassHousing has awarded \$180,000 in funding to help create new units of affordable sober housing for women in Roxbury and New Bedford and housing stabilization services for women in Tewksbury.

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 \$4.9 million in grants for more than 1,200 units of substance-free housing in more than two dozen communities for men, women, families, veterans, the homeless and ex-offenders.

"Quality affordable sober housing is a critical resource in helping people overcome addiction," said MassHousing Executive Director Thomas R. Gleason. "These grants will help create 33 new housing units for women in Roxbury and New Bedford as well as help fund very important social services for women in the Tewksbury area."

Receiving grants in the latest round of CCRI funding are:

- **New Bedford Council on Alcoholism**, \$75,000 to help create 11 new units of sober housing for women in New Bedford.
- **The Dimock Center Women's Renewal Project**, Roxbury, \$75,000 to help create 22 new units of sober housing for women on the Dimock Center's campus in Roxbury.
- **Lowell House, Inc., AfterHours Program**, Tewksbury, \$30,000 to help fund housing stabilization services targeting women over age 45, including crisis intervention, recovery and peer support, and educational and career development for women leaving temporary transitional housing for permanent housing.

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

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 \$10.4 billion for affordable housing. For more information, visit the MassHousing website at www.masshousing.com.

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