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MassHousing Approves \$207,429 for Sober Housing
Latest funding will benefit programs in Amesbury, New Bedford, Quincy and Worcester

BOSTON – November 19, 2008 – MassHousing has approved \$207,429 in funding for affordable sober housing in Amesbury, New Bedford, Quincy and Worcester.

The latest four grants, ranging from \$22,429 to \$75,000, 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. Since 2003, MassHousing has committed more than \$5.4 million in funding to CCRI through fiscal year 2010 and created or preserved more than 1,000 units of substance-free housing in more than two dozen communities for men, women, families, veterans, the homeless and ex-offenders. CCRI to date has awarded more than \$4 million in grants for sober housing.

"This latest round of funding for affordable sober housing will help provide a safe, substance-free living environment for many homeless men, women and veterans, in these four communities who are in great need of it," said MassHousing Executive Director Thomas R. Gleason. "Quality affordable sober housing is greatly needed in Massachusetts and we will continue our intensive efforts to develop and preserve even more of this very important and needed affordable housing."

Receiving grants in the latest round of CCRI funding are:

- **Progress House, Amesbury**, \$75,000 to help rehabilitate and preserve 25 units of affordable sober housing for men operated by the John Ashford Link House, Inc. of Amesbury.
- **WRAP House, New Bedford**, \$35,000 to help acquire a sober house for 11 women in New Bedford operated by the New Bedford Council on Addiction, Inc.
- **New Horizon House, Quincy**, \$22,429 to help fund the installation of fire sprinkler systems in three sober homes for men in Quincy.
- **Massachusetts Veterans Housing and Outreach Center, Worcester**, \$75,000 to help create 10 new units of affordable sober housing for veterans in Worcester.

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 \$5.6 billion for rental housing and more than \$4.8 billion for homeownership. For more information, visit the MassHousing website at www.masshousing.com.

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