

For Immediate Release

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Shalom House, Inc. Expands Subsidy Services to York County

PORTLAND – On July 1, 2009 Shalom House will assume responsibility for over 160 units of housing subsidies from Counseling Services Inc. (CSI). When CSI made the decision to discontinue this program Shalom House was happy to step in. “We are excited to have this opportunity to expand upon the excellent work our subsidy department has been doing by moving into York County and appreciate being approached to take on this expanded role in Southern Maine,” said Mary Haynes-Rodgers, Executive Director of Shalom House, Inc.

Since 1994 Shalom House has coordinated the statewide Bridging Rental Assistance Program and Shelter+Care grants for the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). These programs provide rental assistance to over 1,200 very low income people in the State of Maine who have disabling illnesses. Shalom House’s Subsidy Department plays a dual role as Central Administrating Agency to all providers in the state who offer these housing subsidies as well as the Local Administrating Agency for Cumberland County and now York County.

Ginny Dill, Shalom Subsidy Coordinator, and her team of Housing Specialists will partner with service providers, landlords and consumers in the area to continue to provide these essential housing subsidies. Shalom House looks forward to increasing its presence in York County and maintaining the high quality of service that CSI has provided to their clients for so many years.

Statewide Subsidy Programs

Bridging Rental Assistance Program (BRAP) is a housing program developed and funded by DHHS. This transitional program assists low-income persons who have severe and persistent mental illness. Participants in this program live in apartments of their choice in the community and pay 51% of their income for rent. BRAP subsidizes the remaining portion of the rent.

Shelter+Care is a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funded permanent rental subsidy program for homeless individuals with certain major disabilities. Tenants pay 30% of their adjusted gross income toward their rent in a room or apartment of their choice in the community. Most tenants also receive support services from local provider agencies.

Shalom House, Inc.

Founded in 1972, Shalom House provides comprehensive community integration services and residential treatment to hundreds of adults living with severe and persistent mental illness. These supportive mental health services are based on a recovery model in which people are treated with dignity and respect. The agency’s mission is to provide hope for adults living with mental illness by providing a choice of quality housing and support services that help people lead stable and fulfilling lives in the community.

Visit our Web site at www.shalomhouseinc.org.

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