



Deborah Burkhart of NEF Named to CSH Board of Directors

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NEW YORK, NY. – **CSH**, a national nonprofit, has announced the appointment of Deborah Burkhart of the **National Equity Fund** (NEF) to its Board of Directors. The term of service is for three years.

CSH is the leader in providing the lending, granting, consulting and training that demonstrates how supportive housing improves the lives of individuals and families, and builds stronger communities. Supportive housing uses affordable housing as a platform to create stability so that individuals or families can access and pursue the array of community services they need to transform their lives and move forward.

“As a national expert in supportive housing and innovative ways to structure financing for such projects, Debbie has the background to help us expand our reach to communities where there is a need to create affordable homes and access to services that support people with complex challenges,” said Deborah De Santis, President and CEO of CSH. “We are so fortunate to have Debbie join our Board because she has served several levels – in finance, with providers and public policy advocates – and her experience and interactions have touched most every population served by supportive housing.”

About Deborah Burkart

Deborah Burkart, National Vice President Supportive Housing for the National Equity Fund (NEF), graduated from Duke University and received a master's degree in business administration and a master's degree in city and regional planning from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Since joining NEF in 1992 she has assisted in the financial structuring of over \$1 Billion in tax credit equity for special needs projects during her 20-year plus tenure at NEF. She has overseen the financial structuring of affordable projects that assist homeless veterans, the frail elderly, chronically mentally ill, homeless, developmentally disabled, youth aging out of the foster care system, and grandparents/elder caregivers raising grandchildren. Because of her efforts, NEF was an early investor in Affordable Assisted Living and oversees NEF's investment of \$200 million in 34 projects, which provide affordable assisted living care to over 3,000 frail seniors. Her expertise extends to Veterans Administration homeless veterans programs and she has worked on federal legislation to promote development of supportive housing for homeless veterans. She is the Director of LISC's Bring Them HOMES initiative and currently assisting developers across the country build nearly 4,000 units of housing for disabled or homeless veterans.

Ms. Burkart has been active in a variety of homeless and affordable housing organizations, and is frequently a panelist at affordable housing conferences including: National Council of State Housing Agencies (NCHSA), Affordable Housing Finance (AHF-Live), American Association for Homes & Services for the Aged (aka LeadingAge), National Coalition for Homeless Veterans (NCHV), National Housing Conference (NHC), Housing California, Illinois Housing Council, IPED, Supportive Housing Network of NY (SHNNY). For the last six years she has been a judge for NCSHA's Annual Awards for Program Excellence in Supportive Housing. Since 2009, she has served on the Board of the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans. Since 2001, she has served on the Illinois Housing Council's Executive Board. She provides public policy technical assistance on the HEARTH Act and veterans programs to a range of nonprofit, city, state and federal agencies.

Prior to joining NEF, she served as a Project Manager at Building Diagnostics Inc. (BDI), a retirement housing development management and design research firm in Boston. She participated in the publication of *Independence through Interdependence: Congregate Housing for Seniors*, which won a Progressive Architecture Design Research Award.

About CSH

CSH has led the supportive housing movement for nearly 25 years, demonstrating its potential to improve the lives of very vulnerable individuals and families. CSH has earned a sterling reputation as a highly effective, financially stable organization, with strong partnerships across government, community organizations, foundations, and financial institutions. CSH is advancing innovative solutions that use housing as a platform for services to improve lives, maximize public resources, and build healthy communities. We are working to assure that housing solutions are accessible to more people in more places. Visit us at www.csh.org