



December 14, 2015
For Immediate Release

Robert Friant
212-986-2966, x245
robert.friant@csh.org

“Moving On” Opens New Doors

Supportive Housing Residents & Homeless Benefit

NEW YORK CITY - CSH today announced the selection of five subgrantees under its 2015 “New York City Moving On” initiative, an effort funded through the generosity of the Robin Hood Foundation.

Grants to the five community groups under the Moving On initiative are designed to enable tenants who have achieved stability in supportive housing to transition to other independent housing.

The five subgrantees announced by CSH are:

- Brooklyn Community Housing and Services, Inc.
- Community Access, Inc.
- Lantern Community Services
- Project Renewal, Inc.
- Services for the Underserved, Inc.

“This is all about helping those who no longer have a need for the intense services often associated with supportive housing,” said Kristin Miller, CSH director in New York. “If a resident of supportive housing is able and voluntarily chooses to live in the community without intensive services, we want to support their success and continued growth. These five subgrantees will support the transitions of at least 25 tenants into affordable housing across the neighborhoods of NYC and then refill their vacated units with individuals in need of supportive housing.”

According to Miller, supportive housing combines affordable housing with comprehensive, wrap-around services that help people who face complex challenges live with stability, autonomy and dignity. Some

residents find that after years in supportive housing they have stabilized to the point of not needing the same level of service. Although residents may leave supportive housing whenever they wish, most cannot afford rents in New York City with their incomes and may also need assistance navigating the process of transitioning to other housing. Moving On reinforces tenant independence and choice by enabling residents who are capable and interested in doing so to leave supportive housing.

Miller noted Moving On programs operated by subgrantees will cover some costs related to securing and moving into a new apartment and will offer case management and supports to help participants make a successful transition. Ongoing rent payments will be covered by Housing Choice Vouchers provided by the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD). Security deposits, broker's fees and other moving costs will be paid for by funding from the NYC Human Resources Administration (HRA).

"We are grateful for the investments of Robin Hood and the City of New York in this Moving On program and the commitment of the community organizations, 125 residents will move on the next chapter of their lives, and allow for 125 homeless people to get the permanent housing and services they now need," said Miller.

"Robin Hood is proud to support the Moving On initiative with CSH. The groups that CSH has selected are leaders in the field and we are collectively motivated to help supportive housing residents move to more independent settings—and free up units for New Yorkers who are truly in need of the intensive intervention that supportive housing provides," said Robin Hood's Eric Weingartner, Managing Director of Survival.

"Brooklyn Community Housing and Services (BCHS) is very pleased to be a part of the Moving On initiative," said Jeff Nemetsky, Executive Director. "BCHS has always been dedicated to helping its residents achieve maximum independence and well-being. Moving On will give us the tools we need to help even more people do so in the year ahead."

"Community Access is thrilled to be a part of the Moving On initiative," said Cal Hedigan, Deputy CEO of Community Access. "Part of the solution to homelessness in New York City lies in creating exits from existing supportive housing programs. We hope that this grant will pave the way for more."

"Lantern Community Services welcomes the opportunity to be part of the Moving On initiative," said Laura Lazarus, Executive Director of Lantern Community Services. "Lantern's clients include 83 young adults who have aged out of the New York City foster care system. Moving On will provide critical resources as we work with them to make a successful transition to independence."

"Project Renewal has been focusing on this issue for many years – in fact, last year we helped 156 people move out of our own supportive housing," said Patrick Germain, Chief Strategy Officer of Project Renewal. "We continually engage our tenants in conversations about how they can live their best lives."

"SUS is excited to be a part of the Moving On initiative and welcomes the opportunity to work to equip families to live more full and independent lives," said Donna Colonna, CEO of Services for the

Underserved, Inc. “Their success will stand as inspiration to others on their journey to achieving a wonderful and significant milestone.”

Miller pointed out that filling the vacated supportive housing units, once residents transition to other housing, is another important way to address the growing homelessness crisis in New York City.

“Last month we released a report detailing the immediate need for over 24,000 new supportive housing units in New York City,” said Miller. “Although New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio has committed to creating 15,000 new units over the next 15 years, it definitely helps now whenever we are able to open up another supportive housing apartment because someone has successfully transitioned.”

The NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) has committed 125 Housing Choice Vouchers to the program, and the NYC Human Resources Administration (HRA) has agreed to provide ‘one shot deal’ funding that can be used to cover moving-related costs such as security deposits or utility arrears. The NYC Department of Homeless Services (DHS) has committed to helping the subgrantees refill vacated units quickly and to administer the one-shot funding from HRA. The five subgrantees selected will participate in a “learning collaborative” to share best practices, challenges and lessons learned and ensure the success of each resident enrolled in the initiative.

CSH is also working on other Moving On initiatives across the country in Los Angeles, Detroit, Chicago and suburban Cook County, Illinois. Only those residents who want to move on from supportive housing and are able to do so, become part of these initiatives.

###



Brooklyn Community Housing and Services (BCHS) is committed to ending homelessness in Brooklyn. Each year, we provide safe and clean supportive housing for more than 1,000 formerly homeless women, children and men. We help them learn how to live productively and independently, with dignity and hope. Our programs provide short-term, transitional and permanent housing, homelessness prevention, personalized case management, mental health care, on-site nursing, vocational training, substance abuse counseling, recreational activities and other vital services. Find us at www.BCHandS.org.



Community Access was founded in 1974 as a proactive and bold response to the mass release of patients from New York's psychiatric hospitals. Our founders pooled their energies, monies

and efforts to assist residents in obtaining housing, reconnecting with the community, finding work and rebuilding social ties. These early efforts became the prototype for one of the nation's first supportive housing programs. Community Access has since expanded beyond housing to also offer comprehensive support services, job training, counselling, education and advocacy programs to meet the needs of individuals who include people living with HIV/AIDS, veterans, those with histories of substance abuse, and the formerly incarcerated. We are proud that our award-winning programs are being rapidly replicated across the country—and that, each day, we are able to empower individuals to lead healthy, independent lives. Find us at www.communityaccess.org.



Lantern Community Services provides innovative services to help New Yorkers who are formerly homeless or have recently aged out of foster care recreate their lives. Our programs with proven results in health, employment, education and life skills are delivered inside our residences and tailored to each person's needs. We provide our clients—many of whom live with mental illness, addiction, disability, HIV or other chronic illnesses—with the tools they need to integrate successfully into the greater community with dignity and independence. Lantern delivers comprehensive services for the residents of 14 supportive housing sites developed by our affiliate, the Lantern Organization, which provides permanent affordable housing for high-need populations. These sites are located in the Bronx, Brooklyn and Upper Manhattan. Lantern Community Services' teams of experienced social workers and program specialists deliver programming directly within each apartment building, resulting in excellent rates of engagement with our clients. Find us at www.lanterncommunity.org.



Renewing lives. Reclaiming hope. **Project Renewal** has pioneered social innovations that provide a lifeline to the most vulnerable homeless men and women of New York City, and are now replicated around the nation.

Since 1967, Project Renewal has developed an unmatched array of integrated programs and services. We meet homeless New Yorkers WHERE they are, with what they NEED, and WE NEVER GIVE UP on a single one. First known as Manhattan Bowery Corporation, Project Renewal began life more than 46 years ago as a 48-bed alcohol detoxification program at the then-notorious Third Street Men's Shelter. This was one of the nation's first successful treatment programs for "public inebriates," coming at a time when arrest and incarceration were society's most common responses to the problem. Today we continue this pioneering course as a leader in providing health, homes and jobs for homeless New Yorkers with the highest needs. Find us at www.projectrenewal.org.



Services for the Underserved envisions a city where everyone has a roof over their head, is healthy, productive and can enjoy the social connections that create a life of purpose. We're a nonprofit with a staff of close to 2,000 that provides \$185 million in services. Our efforts are supported by various local, state and federal government entities as well as foundations, corporations and individual donors. Most importantly, our vision allows us to deliver the same quality of services to one individual or to thousands. No challenge is beyond our scope. Our Uniqueness lies in our ability to take what we learn on the ground and use it to change systems and impact policy. By delivering high quality services that address the complex circumstances of each person, we help transform lives, improve neighborhoods and boost future generations. Find us at <http://sus.org>.



Robin Hood Foundation is New York's largest poverty-fighting organization, and since 1988 has focused on finding, funding and creating programs and schools that generate meaningful results for families in New York's poorest neighborhoods. Since its founding, Robin Hood has raised more than \$1.95 billion in dollars, goods and services to provide hundreds of the most effective soup kitchens, homeless shelters, schools, job-training programs and other vital services that give New York's neediest citizens the tools they need to build better lives. In addition, Robin Hood's board of directors pays all administrative, fundraising and evaluation costs, so 100% of your donation goes directly to organizations helping New Yorkers in need. Find us at <https://www.robinhood.org/>



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