

# Anna Bissonnette House, Boston, MA

## Permanent Supportive Housing for Older Adults<sup>1</sup>



### Anna Bissonnette House

A four-story renovated development of 40 units of permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless older adults, close to public transportation and retail establishments

#### Developer and Owner:

Hearth, Inc.

#### Property Management:

Hearth, Inc.

#### Tenant Profile:

The average Hearth resident is 62 years old, has a complex medical history involving multiple chronic illnesses, and may have corresponding mental and physical challenges.

#### Supportive Services Provider:

Hearth, Inc.

#### Services Approach:

Hearth provides wrap-around supportive services that assist residents to age with dignity regardless of their special medical, mental health, or social needs.

### Key Features and Innovations

- The building includes a large community room in the lobby, common-area kitchens, community spaces on each floor, a street-side patio and a roof garden.
- At least 90% of Hearth's tenants are "dually-eligible" for both Medicare and Medicaid.
- Hearth participates in Senior Care Options (SCO) which combines health-care services with social support services with the goal of keeping older adults as independent as possible. The program gives elders the option to remain at home with needed care and support rather than going to a hospital or nursing home.
- Hearth's asset management strategy is based on the belief that residents are their most important assets. This philosophy has resulted in virtually no problems with rent collection and low levels of vacancy.

### Financing Information

**Capital Financing Sources:** Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC), Boston Linkage fee, AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust

**Operating Financing Sources:** Boston Housing Authority—Project Based Housing Choice Vouchers

**Services Financing Sources:** Massachusetts Senior Care Options (SCO), MassHealth, Massachusetts Department of Mental Health, Massachusetts Aging Service Access Points

<sup>1</sup> Information for this profile taken from the Mission Creek Senior Community Profile in the Homeless Older Adults Strategic Plan, Shelter Partnership, Inc., March 2008 <http://www.shelterpartnership.org/Common/Documents/studies/HOAPlanCompiled.pdf>