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A Home Makes All The Difference!

For Immediate Release

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The Community Foundation of Frederick County Supports Development of Quality, Affordable, Housing through Grants to Main Street Housing

Main Street Housing, Inc. (MSH), a non-profit housing organization in Maryland dedicated to developing quality, affordable, independent housing for individuals and families with psychiatric disabilities, was recently awarded generous grant funding from The Community Foundation of Frederick County toward their active property development initiative underway in Frederick, MD.

MSH is developing two properties in the City of Frederick as quality, affordable, independent rental housing opportunities that will serve Frederick County individuals and families living with psychiatric disabilities and extremely low income. MSH's award-winning "Main Street Model" includes ongoing support for tenants toward achieving successful independent community living through supportive accountability practices such as coaching and regular inspections. The generous grant funding (FY 16 Strategic and Unrestricted Funds totaling \$5,000) awarded by the Community Foundation will help support planned rehab and improvement projects at both properties.

"The impact of this support is REAL!," said MSH Executive Director Kenneth Wireman. "The property improvements we can make thanks to the Community Foundation's support ensure each home's long-term sustainability, which means Frederick County individuals and families who become MSH tenants will be able to access truly affordable housing in robust neighborhoods, with real opportunities for community integration, for decades to come. We are so excited to be developing more affordable housing in Frederick, and these grants will allow us to move quickly in bringing our new properties online and ready for tenants."

Housing is a basic human need, and living in quality housing in 'neighborhoods of opportunity' makes an enormous difference in overall health and well-being. Unfortunately, there is a substantial shortfall of quality, affordable housing in Maryland, and persons with psychiatric disabilities face significant barriers to accessing independent housing in desirable communities. Since 2001, MSH has been continuously creating and sustaining supportive affordable housing options for people with psychiatric disabilities in diverse communities across Maryland. Their nationally recognized "Main Street Model" is a progressive alternative to segregated, congregate residential treatment settings. MSH provides rental housing opportunities for individuals and families in 11 counties and Baltimore City, and has operated their apartment building in Frederick, MD since 2007.

Learn more about the Main Street Model and current activities at [www.mainstreethousing.org](http://www.mainstreethousing.org).

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