



1521 South Edgewood Street, Suite C, Baltimore, MD 21227-1139

Tel: (410) 646-7840

1-800-704-0262

Fax: (410) 646-0264

"A Home Makes All The Difference"

For Immediate Release

July 1, 2014

The Herbert Bearman Foundation Awards Grant for Main Street Housing's Baltimore City Initiative

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 a generous grant from The Herbert Bearman Foundation towards their Baltimore City Housing Initiative.

The Herbert Bearman Foundation, Inc., based in Baltimore, "funds projects that can make a difference to the well-being of individuals, either by enriching the lives of people in disadvantaged circumstances or benefiting the general community." Main Street Housing's Baltimore City Housing Initiative is a \$1.2M, multi-year project to develop and manage quality, affordable, independent rental housing opportunities to serve individuals and families living with psychiatric disabilities and extremely low income in Baltimore City. Partners in the initiative include The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, United Way of Central Maryland, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development.

The generous gift from The Herbert Bearman Foundation will support several renovation and repair projects at four MSH properties in Baltimore City. MSH Executive Director Kenneth Wireman stated, "We are tremendously excited by our continuing progress in creating great quality affordable housing for folks in need in Baltimore City, and the support of The Herbert Bearman Foundation accelerates our efforts considerably!"

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, including stigma and discrimination, limited income and symptomatic challenges.

MSH has been continuously creating and sustaining supportive affordable housing options for people with psychiatric disabilities in communities across Maryland for more than a decade. Their nationally recognized and award-winning "Main Street Model" emphasizes the principle of "supportive accountability" and provides a progressive alternative to segregated, congregate residential treatment settings. MSH currently provides rental housing opportunities for individuals and families in 11 Counties and Baltimore City.

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

For more information, contact Kenneth Wireman, Executive Director at 410-646-7840 or ken@onourownmd.org

A Subsidiary of...

