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*A Home Makes All The Difference!*

***For Immediate Release***

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## **United Way of Frederick County Supports Development of Quality, Affordable Housing through Live United Grant 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 living with psychiatric disabilities, was recently awarded generous grant funding from the United Way of Frederick County toward their 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 Live United grant from the United Way of Frederick County will help support planned rehab and improvement projects at both properties.

"This grant helps us make improvements to our new properties that ensure their long-term quality and affordability," said MSH Executive Director Kenneth Wireman. "The individuals and families who become MSH tenants of these homes will pay rents that are truly affordable on disability income, while living in communities with access to the supports and opportunities you need to achieve greater independence and self-sufficiency."

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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