

For Immediate Release

Transitional Housing Inc. Now Offers Permanent Supportive Housing And Becomes Front Steps Housing and Services

New Model of Caring for the Homeless in Cuyahoga County

November 17, 2014 – Cleveland, Ohio – Transitional Housing Inc.'s (THI) 60-bed facility on the city's near West Side – formerly only open to homeless women for a finite period of time – now serves women, men and families in what is known as the permanent supportive housing model. With the adoption of the new model of care comes a new name for THI which now will be known as Front Steps Housing and Services.

From its founding in 1986 by four nuns from the Congregation of St. Joseph until 2010, THI has served over 3,000 homeless women and children with a 98 percent success rate of residential clients moving into permanent housing. In 2010, THI began retooling its delivery model as a direct result of the Federal HEARTH Act and the changing landscape of its local continuum of care, which focuses on providing a permanent solution to ending the cycle of homelessness. By the end of 2011, THI had fully embraced the national best practice model of *Housing First* and converted 10 of its 60 transitional housing units to permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless disabled women.

To further respond to changes in the homeless community, as well as shifts in government funding for organizations serving the population, THI began a strategic planning process in 2013. While remaining true to its mission to serve the homeless in need, THI converted its 50 remaining transitional housing units to permanent supportive housing. All 60 units are now permanent supportive housing and serve individuals and families, who are mentally disabled and/or economically disadvantaged in Cuyahoga County. To take one step further in responding to the needs of the community, THI opened its doors for the first time to a single male father in 2013 and now continues to serve mentally disabled men, women and children.

On Saturday, Nov. 15, the organization announced its renaming to Front Steps Housing and Services. This name was chosen to better convey the full scope of offerings. "Front Steps" serves as a symbolic reference to home and represents the starting place for new beginnings. With a new brand and strategic plan in place, the organization is poised to improve and expand its services for a broader population of individuals and families.

About Front Steps Housing and Services

Front Steps Housing and Services is a nonprofit, 501(c)3 organization dedicated to ending the cycle of homelessness in our community. Front Steps provides individuals and families in Cuyahoga County with permanent supportive housing and lifelong solutions to increase self-sufficiency and independence. Offerings include safe, affordable housing; client-centered, comprehensive case management; and supportive services. Front Steps transforms the lives of hundreds of people each year by offering myriad services – in addition to housing – which promote family reunification, financial literacy, education, wellness and independence. The organization also benefits the community by reducing reliance on the legal system, emergency rooms and hospitals.

*(For more information contact Sherri Brandon, Executive Director
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