

CHICAGO HOUSE



For Immediate Release

MAYOR DALEY HELPS UNVEIL NEW UNITS AT CHICAGO HOUSE'S FRED WOODS HOMES FOR FORMERLY HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS AFFECTED WITH HIV/AIDS

CHICAGO, January 11, 2009 - Mayor Richard M. Daley today helped cut the ribbon to celebrate the completion of the Chicago House Fred Woods Home Expansion Project, which brings to the Uptown neighborhood six new units of housing that will serve formerly homeless mothers and their children who are affected by HIV/AIDS.

“Today we are witnessing encouraging evidence of the progress we are making in ending homelessness and providing support for those Chicagoans who at this time in their lives need our help the most,” Mayor Daley said. “We need to develop more new programs tailored to help individuals and families with special needs. And organizations such as Chicago House need our continued support.”

The expansion of the Fred Woods Home, which is located in the Uptown neighborhood, brings the total of apartments to 21. The project was funded by a Section 811 capital advance from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded in 2006 to Chicago House, a social service agency established to provide housing for persons with HIV and AIDS.

“We are very excited by this significant step in the expansion of Chicago House’s services,” said Stan Sloan, chief executive officer of Chicago House. “When Chicago House became the first provider of housing and support for families affected by HIV in 1992, Mayor Daley was on site to launch our first Family Support Program, serving only three families. With this expansion we will now be able to accommodate 18 families, including 20 adults and 45 dependent children, and we will more than double our space for our desperately needed after-school tutoring and mentoring programs.”

“As you know, since 2003, the city has been working with many partners to change the way we provide services to people who are homeless or in danger of becoming homeless,” Daley said. “Our goal is to end homelessness in Chicago and transition those who are homeless to a better way of life.”

About Chicago House

Since 1985, Chicago House has provided permanent housing and supportive services to men, women and children living with HIV and AIDS. Their programs have since expanded to include community case management, substance abuse counseling, HIV prevention, medical adherence and the Midwest's first employment training and placement program specific to people with HIV. Chicago House also now offers free, anonymous rapid HIV testing. More information can be found on the Chicago House web site at www.chicagohouse.org

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