



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**CONTACT: Anne Mc Kenna**  
**(585) 256-3800, ext. 231**

**DATE: May 2, 2011**

**HUD AWARDS \$216 MILLION IN HOMELESS GRANTS**  
**NATION-WIDE; EAST HOUSE RECEIVES \$594,429**  
**FOR LOCAL HOME-TO-STAY PROGRAM**

*Grants represent historic investment to confront urban and rural homelessness*

U.S. Housing and Urban Development Secretary Shaun Donovan announced Friday that over \$216 million has been awarded to homeless programs across the country. The grants represent the most homelessness assistance ever awarded by HUD. Locally, East House will receive \$594,429 for a Home-to-Stay program.

Last Fall, East House received \$441,000 from HUD to open a “Home to Stay” Program. The award provided rent stipends for ten homeless individuals who have a mental illness, and provides supportive living services carried out by East House and other service providers. These services include counseling, monitoring of physical and mental health needs, education and training in independent living skills, recreation, and coordination with other organizations. Since January 1<sup>st</sup>, East House has placed eight homeless individuals in safe and comfortable apartments. The additional funding will allow the agency to place an additional thirteen people in apartments, focusing on those with a mental illness and/or addiction, and to provide supportive services to all over the next several years.

“We are reaching out to serve the chronically homeless who suffer from a mental illness or addiction disorder, but fall outside the formal service systems,” said Greg Soehner, President/CEO of East House.

*Founded in Rochester in 1966, East House is a private, non-profit agency that provides rehabilitation, residential and support services to individuals recovering from mental illness and chemical dependency. East House serves more than 1000 clients and their families each year and is funded by New York State, Monroe County, client fees and private donations. For more information call (585)256-3800 ext 231.*