



MASSACHUSETTS HOUSING AND SHELTER ALLIANCE

INITIATING SOLUTIONS TO END HOMELESSNESS

Press Release

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For more information contact:

Erin Donohue 617-367-6447

edonohue@mhsa.net

Homeless Advocacy Organization to Honor Senate President Therese Murray, Jerry Rappaport, Jr. and Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership

The Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance (MHSA) will hold its fourth annual awards and fundraising event, *Home for Good*, on Wednesday, May 16, 2007 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Omni Parker House, 60 School Street, Boston. **This special event will honor Senate President Therese Murray, Jerry Rappaport, Jr. and Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership (MBHP)** for their outstanding efforts to end homelessness in Massachusetts.

Senator Therese Murray will receive the inaugural *Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill, Jr. Policy for People Award*. The *Policy for People Award* honors a public official who, in the tradition of Tip O'Neill, uses public office to serve the poor, needy, sick and vulnerable. The *MHSA Partnership Award*, presented to Jerry Rappaport, Jr., recognizes the commitment of individuals in the private sector who work to end homelessness. MBHP will receive the *MHSA Cornerstone Award*, which recognizes individuals and organizations who have demonstrated a commitment to providing assistance and care for homeless citizens across the Commonwealth.

"We have an outstanding line-up of honorees this year, and I couldn't be more pleased" said MHSA Executive Director Joe Finn. "All three of our awardees are leaders in the effort to end homelessness in Massachusetts. Their work is an inspiration to us all."

The Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance was established in 1988 by Greater Boston homeless providers and citizens seeking to create a coordinated strategy to end homelessness. MHSA represents 88 community-based agencies operating more than 250 programs statewide that serve over 98% of all homeless individuals in Massachusetts. Through strategic partnerships formed with government, private philanthropy, service providers, homeless individuals, and business, MHSA works to ensure that homelessness does not become a permanent part of the social landscape. For more information visit **www.mhsa.net**.

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities are available for those wishing to attend by calling MHSA at 617-367-6447 ext. 25.

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