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UNITY HOUSE MOVES INTO NEW ITHACA SPACE

Ribbon-cutting celebration planned at Catherwood Road facility

Auburn, New York – Unity House of Cayuga County, Inc. announces the grand opening of its new facility in Lansing Village Place, 15 Catherwood Road, Ithaca. Elizabeth Werner, executive director of Unity House, cordially invites the Ithaca community to a ribbon-cutting ceremony and reception to celebrate the agency’s move. The event will take place from 3:00 – 4:30 pm on Tuesday, May 11; no reservations are necessary.

“This advantageous site will offer easy accessibility to multiple venues of interest to our consumers – the YMCA, restaurants, Pyramid Mall, and more,” said Werner. “Our new location features plenty of free parking, beautiful office suites, is on the public bus line, and best of all, provides better service to our consumers. Significant renovations have taken place, we are all moved in, and we invite the community to celebrate with us.”

In October, Unity House sold its property at 408 East State Street, Ithaca, to local businessman Mr. Avi Smith, who plans to renovate the building and turn it into an inn. Unity House owned the historic mansion, also known as the McCormick-Cowdery House, for 12 years.

The move to Catherwood Road offers tremendous opportunity for creative expansion of Unity House’s Ithaca-based programs. The agency’s day habilitation program serves nearly 45 adults with disabilities a day, and these new facilities offer space that is five times larger than the former downtown facility.

“The new day habilitation site at Catherwood Road provides much-needed additional space,” said Program Director Darlene Podolak. “There is now room to work together in small groups or find a quiet place to enjoy a book. The individuals who receive our services have increased opportunity to develop and apply their skills in an environment that can accommodate everyone’s needs and interests. The space is beautiful and better

represents to the consumers the value that they and their contributions have in the agency.”

The large, beautifully appointed kitchen has proven to be the biggest attraction. Consumers are learning kitchen safety, and how to plan, purchase and prepare different menu items to be shared with their peers and staff.

About 35 Unity House employees work in the new office space.

For more information about Unity House’s ribbon-cutting ceremony, please contact Director of Marketing and Development Kelly Buck at 315.253.6227 x 313 or kbuck@unityhouse.com. Additional information about Unity House may be found at www.unityhouse.com.

Unity House of Cayuga County, Inc. provides transitional and permanent housing, rehabilitative, and employment services for adults with mental health illnesses, developmental disabilities, and/or chemical dependencies from which they are recovering. A nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, Unity House partners with these individuals to develop their personal skills and potential, enabling them to live more full and independent lives. The agency serves more than 700 consumers a day in six central New York counties. Unity House is committed to freeing our communities of misconceptions associated with disabilities through innovation, education, and advocacy.

Unity House ~ Empowering Lives, Securing Futures