

Court Royal, ColumbiaCare's Newest Permanent Supportive Housing Program!

June 23, 2011

The summer heat has finally arrived (I suppose late is better than never) and we have some cool, new projects underway. The one I would like to share about this time is Court Royal, a permanent supportive housing program located in The Dalles, Oregon. Back in February of 2011, ColumbiaCare's in-house grant writers and contributors put together a stellar Community Mental Health Housing grant application for \$110,000 to help towards the purchase of an existing 15-bed apartment complex in the Wasco County area. Staff worked in close collaboration with the Mid-Columbia Center for Living clinical team to help identify specific community members and current Creekside residents that could benefit from this supportive housing program; we tailored our proposal to meet those needs, and submitted our application for a quarter of all available grant funds for the state. By April we learned that we had been awarded the full amount requested. We are now in the process of shaping the treatment services program, giving the building a "face lift", and working on the final contract. We are proud to have Creekside's own QMHP, Walter Lee, to help put this program in place and oversee its ongoing operations.

In a nutshell, the final project will be a mixed population site, with 10 of the units designated as supportive housing, 1 of the units to be used as a community room/office, 1 filled by the on-site resident manager, and the other 3 units remaining as conventional, private apartments. The AMHI initiative has brought with it expectation to help move people into more independent living more quickly. The funding opportunity this initiative has created only helps ColumbiaCare's achieve what has always been our goal and Treatment Philosophy: designing quality program models at every level of care that help individuals recover and become as independent as possible. I

am very pleased to report that Court Royal will be our SIXTH supportive housing program! Thanks to everyone who has helped make this program a reality. We anticipate being ready to serve by the end of summer... All six weeks of it.