



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM COMMENCES AT CHN PROPERTY

COLUMBUS (October 9, 2013)—An after school program for children and teens who reside in Community Housing Network's Southpoint Place Apartments is underway, and will continue through December.

The More Better Program, which encourages children and adolescents to do more than they did the previous year and to do better socially, behaviorally and academically, is provided by the Multicultural Eastside Center of Columbus Area (MECCA), an extension of CHN's service partner Columbus Area Integrated Health Services, Inc.

"Community Housing Network is pleased to partner with Columbus Area to offer this invaluable service to our residents," CHN CEO Susan Weaver said. "We want to provide a solid foundation for the kids. The More Better Program equips them with the tools they need to excel in the classroom and beyond."

Tutors will be available onsite on Mondays and Wednesdays to assist children between the ages of 5 and 12, and on Tuesdays and Thursdays to assist teens ages of 13 through 17. Each hour-and-a-half session will consist of at least 20 minutes of reading, individual homework/study time, and approximately 30 minutes of a structured group activity, such as cooking or painting.

Although the More Better Program works directly with children, the program also works with parents to provide a strong support system for children enrolled in the program. Parents and guardians are encouraged to be active participants in their children's education. "The key to your child's success is parental involvement," Susie Shipley-Norwood, MSW, LSW, MECCA program manager and prevention program manager at Columbus Area Integrated Health Services, Inc., said to parents during program registration. Shipley-Norwood suggested parents take children to the library, discuss current events, and follow up to ensure homework is completed, as well as submitted to educators in a timely manner.

In addition to improved grades, children enrolled in the program have a special incentive to do more and better—field trips. Points will be given for attendance, as well as completed assignments, which will go toward periodic group outings.

About Community Housing Network, Inc.

Community Housing Network, Inc., develops, owns and manages housing across Franklin County, Ohio, and provides affordable apartments to people disabled by mental illness, substance abuse and who have histories of homelessness.

About Columbus Area Integrated Health Services, Inc.

Columbus Area Integrated Healthy Services, Inc., develops and provides comprehensive, community-based integrated health services and programs in Central Ohio.

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