

Bridge Communities, Inc.
505 Crescent Blvd., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Photo Attached

Bridge Communities Receives \$300,000 from Ronald L. McDaniel Foundation

On June 9, 2008, Ron McDaniel, president of the Ronald L. McDaniel Foundation presented a check of \$300,000 to Bridge Communities, a non-profit, transitional housing program serving homeless families in DuPage County.

The contribution will be used to complete the acquisition of a six-flat apartment building in Westmont, IL. The apartments, currently under renovation, will be converted to condominiums and sold to formerly homeless families who have completed the Bridge Communities transitional housing program in a special equity-sharing arrangement. Families will have an opportunity to build real estate equity with a monthly payment that fits their budget. "This is a unique opportunity for low income families who have completed the Bridge Communities program to enjoy the benefits of real estate ownership in DuPage County and raise their families here," says co-founder and president Mark Milligan.

Bridge Communities has purchased 3 six-flat apartments buildings in the communities of: Naperville, Westmont and Lombard. Each building will be converted into condominiums and sold to graduates of the Bridge Communities program. Through this program formerly homeless families will realize the dream of homeownership, while at the same time, DuPage County will have 18 additional units of affordable housing in perpetuity

Bridge Communities partners with 43 churches and community groups in DuPage County to serve over 100 homeless families each year. The churches provide financial support and volunteer mentors who encourage and work with a family over a two-year period to help them improve their education, earning potential and financial budgeting.

Bridge Communities provides case management, employment counseling, and psychological services to its clients. Bridge also provides professional tutors to work with the clients' children to bring them up to grade level in their school work. Finally, Bridge coordinates day care for young children, provides donated automobiles for

clients to get to and from their jobs, and a summer camp program for school-aged children.

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Bridge Communities.. *connecting homeless families to a better future* ... is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, with offices in Glen Ellyn, whose mission is to provide transitional housing to homeless families in DuPage County through partnerships with faith-based and community organizations who provide mentoring relationships which root homeless families into local neighborhoods. In the past 19 years, Bridge Communities has helped over 2000 people cross the bridge from homelessness to permanent housing.

To make a donation support homeless families served by Bridge Communities, or to find out how to support Bridge in another way, please call Mark Milligan at 630-545-0610, x.10 or visit Bridge Communities' web site at www.bridgecommunities.org.