



Champaign Residential Services, Inc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FROM: Linda Anderson Smith
Public Relations Director
Champaign Residential Services, Inc.
1150 Scioto Street
Urbana, Ohio 43078
937-653-1324
lsmith@crsi-oh.com



DATE: August 29, 2007

RE: CRSI buys Wellington 20 bed licenses to continue “Rainbow” services

Urbana: The Champaign County Commissioners recently opened two separate sets of bids for the sale of the Wellington Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Urbana, one of a very few county-owned facilities of its type still remaining in the state of Ohio. Vancrest Ltd. from Van Wert had the winning bid for the 130-bed skilled nursing facility.

The second and only bid was for the “Rainbow Unit” and was submitted by Champaign Residential Services, Inc. (CRSI) to secure licensure for 20 beds currently operated by the agency and reserved for individuals with MR/DD. Until the sale, the 20 beds operated under “certificates of need” that could only be issued to governmental agencies. After the sale is complete, the beds in the “Rainbow Unit” will become privately licensed. The sale to CRSI is for the 20 beds only and does not include building or land ownership. A current space lease agreement runs until July 2008.

“We’ll go through the application and certification process,” says Than Johnson, CEO, of the process to re-license the beds from the county to CRSI. “Our biggest hurdle will be moving state bureaucracy to change the certification but we have the 20 licenses (currently in place with the county) and they’ll be easily applicable to these 20 (privately owned) beds.”

CRSI has contracted with the county since the early 1980’s to provide services at the Wellington for individuals with medical needs requiring more in-depth MR/DD services. CRSI’s goal now, is to preserve the homes and support services for residents of the Rainbow Unit and to preserve approximately 25-30 CRSI staff positions. If these residents were forced to move from the community, so would the state and federal funding that follows them of approximately \$1.5M annually, which enters the local economy.

“CRSI is and has for 31 years been a protector and advocate for community members living with MRDD and this investment is an example”, says Linda Smith, PR Director for the agency. “Moving from home involuntarily can be devastating for anyone and individuals living with the challenges of MR/DD are no exception. This investment is about protecting consumers, saving jobs and keeping money in the community and CRSI takes a great deal of pride in being a good community partner.”

The sale is projected to be completed by the end of the year and CRSI plans to seek a continuing lease agreement with Vancrest Ltd. after the current lease expires in July 2008. (*see related story*)