



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
April 10, 2014

CONTACT: Andrew Mack
630-357-7552

Blighted home transformed in Bellwood *Neighborhood Stabilization Program restores community*

Hillside, Ill. – The Proviso Township Mental Health Commission (PTMHC) announced today that they have completed their ninth rehabilitation of a blighted property and it is now available for purchase or rent to a low income family or individual. The rehabilitation of the property was completed as part of the Federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP).

“This program helps the whole community,” said PTMHC board president Michael Corrigan. “By rehabilitating this house, we’ve removed a property that was having a negative impact on the neighborhood and turned it into a community asset.”

Over the last six years, nine blighted and vacant homes in Bellwood and Melrose Park were purchased with a \$2.5 million grant from the Illinois Housing Development Authority and converted into affordable housing. The purpose of the NSP was to stabilize communities hit hard by foreclosure. The nine properties were clustered in Melrose Park and Bellwood in order to have the biggest impact.

“This home is ideal for a veteran or a small family,” said Jesse Rosas, executive director of the PTMHC. “There is also down payment assistance which makes the home even more affordable for families or individuals.”

Families that qualify for the homes must have good credit but nevertheless many are unable to buy a home. If the homes are ever sold, they must be sold at an affordable IHDA-established price. The Proviso Township Mental Health Commission administered the NSP in partnership with the developer The Resurrection Project and the villages of Melrose Park and Bellwood.

“We’re very pleased that all of these groups have been able to come together to help elevate the community,” said Bellwood Mayor Frank Pasquale. “This is really a win-win situation.”

###