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## **Horizon Behavioral Health is Awarded Funding to Provide Permanent Supportive Housing to Individuals with Severe Mental Illness**

**Lynchburg, VA** – The Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services has awarded Horizon Behavioral Health \$609,000 to provide Permanent Supportive Housing to individuals living with Severe Mental Illness (SMI). This will allow people with SMI to remain in safe and stable housing, minimizing the risk of becoming homeless, while receiving critically needed support.

The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) awarded this funding, in part, because of Horizon's strong partnerships throughout Central Virginia and the region. Specifically, this funding will provide a rental subsidy for thirty individuals based upon thirty percent of the participant's monthly adjusted income that will go directly to the landlord. Horizon will also offer these individuals other services that address whole person health, such as case management, outpatient services, primary care, and psychiatric services.

"I'm very pleased that as a result of this funding Horizon will be able to expand our service offerings to include supportive housing assistance modeled after SAMHSA's Scattered Sites Housing, an evidence-based model. Horizon has developed many partnerships throughout Central Virginia and we look forward to working with our many valued community partners on addressing homelessness and ensuring humane housing throughout the region," says Damien Cabezas, CEO of Horizon Behavioral Health.

***About Horizon Behavioral Health:*** *Horizon Behavioral Health has been the premier behavioral healthcare provider in Central Virginia for more than 50 years. In the last year, Horizon provided clinical and prevention services to more than 18,000 adults and children addressing needs related to mental health, substance use and intellectual disabilities.*

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