FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHN and OCHN Develop New Housing Locator Link

OAKLAND COUNTY, MI (September 20, 2018) – Community Housing Network (CHN) and Oakland Community Health Network (OCHN) have collaborated to create a new, online Oakland Housing Link (OHL) tool. Oakland County residents who receive public mental health services and live within a specialized residential setting will have improved choices in locations and homes with OHL.

“We’re thankful for CHN’s expertise in developing this valuable online tool to help the people we serve make informed decisions about where and with whom they want to live,” explains OCHN Executive Director and CEO Annette Downey. “It furthers our mission to empower people and strengthen communities, while promoting inclusion and self-determination for all.”

OHL, which is guided by person-centered planning, showcases available housing options within OCHN’s provider network. These options are available for individuals already receiving specialized residential services, as well as for future service participants. Assistance with all housing searches is being led by network provider case managers and support coordinators.

“We’re very excited about offering complete, accurate and timely housing information for people looking for a home that suits their needs and desires,” said CHN’s President Marc Craig. “This project aligns well with our goal as an agency to help people find a home in an area of their choosing.”

Examples of community amenities shared through OHL include information on nearby restaurants, parks, transportation, shopping centers, as well as home photos. OHL features were established with the assistance of focus groups who met to discuss and share thoughts about the wants and needs of individuals for whom the tool was being built.

The projected launch date for the Oakland Housing Link to be available on both CHN’s and OCHN’s websites is October 1, 2018, however ongoing design enhancement will continue as needed.
About OCHN
OCHN has a long-standing history of promoting independence, choice, and community inclusion for children and adults with intellectual / developmental disabilities, mental health concerns, and substance use disorders. Its mission to “inspire hope, empower people, and strengthen communities” reflects an unyielding belief in a “Valuable System for Valued People.” Programs and supports provided by OCHN’s service network are available at www.oaklandchn.org.

Most people who receive services through Oakland County’s public mental health system, which is managed by OCHN, have Medicaid insurance coverage.

About CHN
Community Housing Network is a nonprofit organization committed to providing homes for people in need through proven strategies of homeless prevention, housing assistance and development, community education and referral, advocacy and additional services. The organization carries out its work in Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties. For the past five years it was recognized by the Detroit Free Press as a Top 100 Workplace and in 2012, 2014, 2016, 2017, and 2018 was honored as a Crain’s Cool Place to Work. For more information, visit www.communityhousingnetwork.org.

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