



Rumford Group Homes, Inc.

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rumford Group Homes, Inc. Becomes Re-Accredited

(Rumford) Rumford Group Homes, Inc. has received notification that it has been re-accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA) according to an announcement made by Alan J. Monier, Executive Director of the organization, which is located at 160 Lincoln Ave. in Rumford.

COA Accreditation attests that an organization meets the highest national standards of best practice and is delivering the best quality services to the community it serves. Rumford Group Homes, Inc. is proud to join COA's Community of Excellence, which is comprised of more than 1,800 private and public organizations that serve over 7 million children, youth, individuals and families in North America. Rumford Group Homes, Inc. was first nationally accredited in 2004 and received full accreditation status in the first year of operation.

The COA accreditation process involves a detailed review and analysis of an organization's administrative operations and service delivery against national standards of best practice. All of the programs contained within an organization for which COA has a service standard are subject to review as COA reviews and accredits the entire organization, not just specific programs.

Richard Klarberg, President and Chief Executive Officer of COA states "Let me say how significant this achievement is. It represents the fulfillment of countless hours of hard work and the dedication of many people-most notably your staff and the members of your board." Nick Waugh, President of the Board of Directors for Rumford Group Homes adds "The Board of Directors is very proud of everyone who helped us achieve national recognition of Rumford Group Homes programs and services. On behalf of the Board I would like to thank everyone who made this possible."

Elsie Anderson, M.S.W, and COA reviewer states "The community should be proud of the accomplishments of Rumford Group Homes. Accreditation involves a through review of an

agency's work. During the three day site visit the quality of work being done by Rumford Group Homes, Inc. staff became increasingly evident. It was a pleasure to review the agency."

Alan J. Monier, Executive Director for Rumford Group Homes states "This achievement represents our commitment to set high performance standards for ourselves and to deliver the very best quality services. This cannot be achieved without the dedication and commitment of our employees who are devoted to these goals."

Founded in 1977, COA is an independent not-for-profit accreditor of the full continuum of community-based behavioral health care and social service organizations. COA's mission is to partner with agencies worldwide to improve service delivery outcomes by developing, applying and promoting accreditation standards. COA envisions excellence in the delivery of human services globally, resulting in the well-being of individuals, families, and communities.

COA is endorsed by leading consumer and professional groups and by many regulatory bodies and managed care organizations. COA is sponsored by the Alliance for Children's and Families, association of Jewish Family And Children's Agencies, Catholic Charities USA, Child Welfare League of America, Children's Home Society of America, Foster-Family Treatment Association, Join Council on International Children's Service, Lutheran Services of America, National Council for Adoption, National Foundation for Credit Counseling, National Network for Youth, National Organization of State Associations for Children, Prevent Child Abuse and Volunteers of America.

Rumford Group Homes, Inc. is a nationally accredited (Council of Accreditation [COA]) non-profit social service agency. Since 1974, Rumford Group Homes Inc. has served abused, neglected, and homeless youth and their families from throughout the state of Maine with an emphasis on the tri-county region of Oxford, Androscoggin, and Franklin Counties. The agency provides a variety of supportive services through our residential treatment programs, crisis program, housing and case management programs, homeless youth outreach services, and low-income housing to children, adolescents, young adults and families in need of treatment, housing, or support due to abuse, neglect, family crisis or abandonment. For more information, please call 364-3551.

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Nick Waugh, President of the Board of Directors and Susan L. Forkus, L.C.P.C. Clinical Director of Programs and COA Chair displays the COA Accreditation Plaque awarded to Rumford Group Homes. Pictured with her are the COA subcommittee chairs, (left to right) Jesse Babcock, L.C.S.W. Program Director for the Turner Family Support Center, Keith Bellefleur, Program Director of the Roy House, Heidi Provencher, Program Director for Greenleaf House, Bernice Harrington, Program Director for the Leeds Home, Philip Mills, Director of Operations and Peter Perry, Program Director for Transition House Program.