

Santa Maria Hostel Acquires Bonita House of Hope *Combination expands state's largest substance abuse treatment provider for women with children -*

Houston, TX (February, 2009). . . . Santa Maria Hostel today announced it is taking over operations and financial management of Bonita House of Hope, another Houston area non-profit organization focused on helping women break free from drug and alcohol dependencies. The charities began exploring partnership opportunities in 2008 and their governing bodies reached a formal agreement in December.

Santa Maria will serve as the parent entity, but continue to use the Bonita House name to designate the facility. Under the terms of the agreement, Kay Austin, CEO of Santa Maria, will oversee all operations of the organization.

Santa Maria already represented the primary source of state-funded treatment for women and women with children in Harris County and the 12 surrounding counties before the merger. Santa Maria provides an average of 65 percent of all residential and outpatient substance abuse and co-occurring mental health services for pregnant and parenting women. Last year, Santa Maria served 976 women and children through its various sites and programs. Now, the organization adds Bonita House's four-acre residential, educational, and recreational complex, which accommodates an additional 200 women and children, to its existing residential facilities, Jacquelyn House and Paschall House and its Fulton House outpatient center.

Founded in 1995, Bonita House combines transitional housing with a customized blend of healing, social and personal services tailored for women who struggle with chemical dependency, as well as with past traumas, behavioral disorders or conflicts with others or the law. Bonita House is located in the inner-city neighborhood of Trinity Garden, on Parker Road just west of US 59.

"This acquisition allows Santa Maria to expand our reach to more women and children in need around Houston," said Kay Austin, CEO of Santa Maria Hostel. "The mission of Bonita House will be preserved and there will be no impact to the continuum of care provided by either organization during the transition."

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Santa Maria Hostel Merger/Add One

Santa Maria Hostel, a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization, was launched in mid-1950 as a shelter for homeless women. Houston's Santa Maria Hostel has since expanded into a comprehensive residential treatment program that helps mothers and their children recover and rebound from the debilitating effects of drugs, alcohol, co-occurring mental disorders and related forms of crisis. Santa Maria now stands as the largest treatment provider for women with children in Texas and provides a full continuum of care. Santa Maria has been recognized as one of Texas' best managed treatment and care centers for addicted mothers and their children. Since its licensure, Santa Maria has offered services to pregnant/parenting women, those with co-occurring substance abuse and psychiatric disorders and targeted services for women seeking treatment in lieu of incarceration. Santa Maria is making a difference by helping women to reclaim their lives. **Treatment Completion:** 100% of SMH clients have successfully completed treatment. **Follow-up Contacts:** 81% of SMH clients have successful follow-ups. **Abstinence 60 days following treatment completion:** 100% of SMH clients drug free at follow-up. www.santamariahostel.org

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