

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
The Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP)

To Whom It May Concern:

The world has changed with respect to those with intellectual disabilities. Medical and social advances have enabled those with disabilities to live longer, healthier and more productive lives. Betty's Village is one of the many ways to respond to the need for improved, long-term housing and will provide a safe and affordable answer for people with disabilities to live in their community.

I have reviewed the proposed Opportunity Village development and am pleased to offer my support of Betty's Village as a community based residential setting for people with disabilities. The residents of Betty's Village will engage in an active life, be integrated in society, have support of individual choice, and be encouraged to foster independence to the highest degree possible. Moreover, Betty's Village will be integrated in and support full access of individuals receiving Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) to the greater community. Indeed, many who Opportunity Village serves will have the opportunity to seek employment and work in competitive integrated settings, engage in community life, control personal resources, and receive services in the community to the same degree of access as individuals not receiving Medicaid HCBS.

For many people Opportunity Village serves, encouraging interaction, independence and self-determination is key to a full and fulfilling life. Betty's Village includes the many components needed to encourage greater independence and self-direction while ensuring the appropriate supports are available. I am in support of the project.

Sincerely,

West Allen



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