



Fellowship Housing Opportunities, Inc.

36 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301 * Telephone 603-225-1767 * Fax 603-225-6027 * www.fellowshiphousing.org

Daily Dose Program

For more than 10 years, Fellowship Housing has been providing support to area consumers in taking their medications through our contract for services with the mental health center. At its peak in 2007, Fellowship Housing's Outreach Program not only provided a high quality and essential service, it was also adequately funded and consisted of more reasonable program requirements than today.

Under the newer rules for reimbursement consumers are expected to engage in 15 minutes of face-to-face clinical conversation about medications each time they take part in our service – sometimes twice each day! For some this is a welcome and pleasant experience as it constitutes, perhaps, the only contact they make with a caring professional during the day.

For others the symptoms of their illness, or the requirement of being supervised in taking medications as a condition of being released from an institution, places an undue burden on them for conversing about a subject they would prefer not to discuss at all. Fellowship Housing works closely with consumers and their clinical teams to find successful strategies that meet the needs of all parties, but in some instances the intervention remains a cost to Fellowship Housing that cannot be recovered.

Fellowship Housing believes that providing a reasonable amount of such uncompensated care is within our budget, within our mission and is *simply the right thing to do*. We know that when people adhere to their medication routines their overall life improves. They are less likely to be hospitalized or come to the attention of law enforcement and are also able to take better care of themselves and maintain a higher standard of living. Fellowship Housing deeply believes in wellness and recovery – but we also believe in making prudent decisions with the finite amount of funds we have available. As such, we will not be able to continue providing the same volume of uncompensated care to our clients without financial help.

For those who simply cannot tolerate daily interaction about medications, Fellowship Housing has launched a fundraising campaign to sustain this core service through Fiscal Year 2011 (June 30, 2011). We estimate that each dose costs \$10 to deliver and have agreed to provide as many doses to as many participants as we can secure funding to serve. The demand for this service is such that 20,000 units of care that do not qualify for reimbursement could be delivered in FY 2011. In raising \$20,000, we can continue this valuable service and hope that the overall economic forecast improves so that reimbursement for FY 2012 won't be so constricted.