



HRDI

Human Resources Development Institute, Inc.

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For Immediate Release

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HRDI Responds to Community Needs by Opening New Assessments and Intake Center

Chicago (February 1, 2010) – **Human Resources Development Institute, Inc. (HRDI)**, a Chicago-based substance abuse and mental health treatment organization, is pleased to announce the opening of a new Assessments and Intake Center (AIC), including a dedicated telephone hotline. This new service will simplify the often complex process of qualifying for state-funded rehabilitative care for alcohol addiction and substance abuse.

Mrs. Ollie M. Knight, MSW/ACSW, is the Interim President and CEO of HRDI. As she explained, "HRDI has always responded to the needs of the communities we serve. As the demand for residential program beds has increased, we have decided to centralize the service in order to meet the needs of the agency and be more effective in serving the community."

Dr. Yihoodah Green, HRDI's Chief Clinical Officer and Medical Director, said that the new centralized intake department will increase access to care for people who need help, but don't know where to go, or who to call.

"This new department will allow us to both increase our internal efficiency, and provide increased access to care for communities on Chicago's South and West sides," he said. "By linking our four residential substance abuse programs, we will be able to offer individual callers a wide variety of options, and help them navigate the complex process of applying for benefits."

Starting February 1st, anyone who has or thinks they might know someone who has a problem with alcohol or drug abuse can call the confidential assessment hotline at 312-258-1092 to see if they qualify for one of HRDI's supervised residential care programs. The Assessments and Intake Center will be based at HRDI's Bakeman Leadership Institute, located at the corner of Calumet and East 51st Street, directly across from the Green Line station.

Intakes and assessments will be provided both in-person and over the phone any time between 8am and 1pm, Monday through Friday. General information on HRDI programs will also be available Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm.

About HRDI's Supervised Residential Programs:

HRDI serves a wide variety of clients with substance abuse disorders at its four supervised residential programs. Each program is funded separately through the City of Chicago, or the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse.

Our supervised residential substance abuse programs are:

- Chicago Girls, which serves adolescent females under court-ordered supervision;
- Essence House, which serves women with a history of substance abuse;
- Harriet Tubman for pregnant women, and those with dependent children; and
- Near West, for men with substance abuse disorders who have been incarcerated.

About HRDI

Human Resources Development Institute, Inc. (HRDI) is one of the largest African-American behavioral health care agencies in the United States.

HRDI provides services in alcohol and substance abuse prevention and treatment, mental health, youth prevention, family services, community health, case management, alternative youth education, HIV/AIDS prevention and education, corrective services, and gambling prevention and education.

For media inquiries about the new Assessments and Intake Center, please contact Diana Yates at HRDI on 312-756-7302, or email dyates@hrdi.org.

For more information on HRDI, please visit our website at www.hrdi.org.
