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**SAMARITAN INNS OPENS DC'S FIRST AND ONLY
TRANSITIONAL TREATMENT PROGRAM FOR WOMEN**

WASHINGTON, DC (April 26, 2021) – Samaritan Inns, a nonprofit combating homelessness and addiction, opened the first and only Transitional Treatment Program for Women in DC. The program is welcoming new clients at a newly renovated location on Ontario Road, formerly known as Ontario Inn, and was also renamed after retired Samaritan Inns' President Larry Huff, and his wife Lyn, who have dedicated hours upon hours of time as volunteers.

"It is through the vision and strength of our team that we are able to dedicate one of our 8 transitional homes to single women," said Lauren C. Vaughan, President and CEO, Samaritan Inns. "It is our mission to build on our organization's legacy by increasing the number of individuals we can serve. When we can offer opportunities for all who are at-risk of homelessness, suffer from addiction and need support to rebuild their lives, then we are delivering on that mission."

The CDC and the National Center for Health Statistics reported that 81,230 people died of drug overdoses in the 12-month period ending in May 2020, the largest number of drug overdoses ever recorded in a year. According to a recent NPR report, "In the U.S., more than 44,000 people died of alcoholic liver disease in 2019. And although liver diseases still affect more men, younger women are driving the increase in deaths, a trend that began several years ago and is now supercharged by the pandemic," says Dr. Jessica Mellinger, a liver specialist at the University of Michigan's health system.

The Women's Transitional Treatment Program will address the critical need for extended residential SUD treatment for our female clients. The newly renovated house can accommodate 50 women annually in a program, which closely integrates with the intensive treatment in the 28-day Adult Treatment Program.

"After finishing a 28-day program, I was going into rehab and I knew I needed a program with structure," said Jacqueline Pearson, a resident at the Huff House. "I've been here for 30 days and the experience has given me the treatment I need and the clarity that I never received from any other program. I'm focusing on me and building my self-esteem. I feel safe, I look forward to sharing with the other women in the groups, and I love that the staff are accessible. If it weren't for Samaritan Inns, I would have found myself back on the street using drugs and homeless again."

The women will be assigned a counselor/case manager and begin their path to success through 20 hours of clinical counseling per week, trauma-informed groups, 12 step meetings, substance abuse relapse prevention and psychoeducation.

This regimen will be followed by lower intensity treatment, while also focusing more on life skills: nutrition, stress reduction, financial management, computer skills, GED tutoring, and job training in order to gain employment by the end of the 6-month program.

About Samaritan Inns

Since Samaritan Inns' founding in 1985, our mission has been to provide structured housing and recovery services in an environment of support and accountability to give homeless or at risk men, women and families who suffer from drug and alcohol addictions the opportunity to rebuild their lives. Our work is accomplished through a rigorous Residential Treatment and Recovery Continuum: 28-Day Adult Treatment; Transitional Treatment Programs for Men, and for Women with Children; and Long-Term Recovery. We have a highly skilled staff focused on the needs of our clients and have proven that our programs lead to lasting sobriety, sustainable independent living, and improved health. For over 35 years, our programs and services have treated and saved more than 15,000 citizens in the District of Columbia.