



August 1, 2015

Dear Friends,

It is with great excitement and pleasure that the Women's Institute for Housing & Economic Development announces the addition of Betsy Crum to our leadership team as our Executive Director. The Women's Institute will be led by Betsy Crum and our Chief Operating Officer, Loni Willey, effective October 5, 2015.

As many of you are aware the Women's Institute has been without part of its leadership team since the departure of Mollye Wolahan earlier this year. This vacancy has afforded the Board of Directors and our current Executive Director, Loni Willey, an opportunity to ascertain the needs of the organization and chart the best course for the Women's Institute to continue the quality and level of service it is known for and expand on its mission, especially with regard to our affordable housing development, into the future.

A lifelong advocate for affordable housing and providing housing for those most in need, Betsy brings extensive experience in addressing housing issues and developing affordable housing. Betsy has most recently served as the Executive Director of the Connecticut Housing Coalition. Prior to joining the Coalition, Betsy was the Connecticut Director of Real Estate Development for the Women's Institute, helping launch our expanded work in the state of Connecticut in 2005. She has previously worked at both the Department of Housing and the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority, as well as with municipalities, local governments, developers, nonprofits, and intermediaries such as the Corporation for Supportive Housing. We are thrilled she is rejoining us as our new Executive Director to lead our vision, organization, and real estate development activities.

Having joined the Women's Institute in 2001, Loni stepped in as Executive Director in 2007 after the departure of our former director. Under her leadership the organization has expanded its reach as a regional affordable housing developer and consultant known for its quality and ability to tackle the most difficult projects. Through her leadership the Women's Institute has created or preserved 37 affordable housing projects totaling over 1,100 units, and currently has an array of 25 projects in development totaling another 800 units.

In preparing the organization for this exciting transition, Loni stated: "It has been my pleasure and privilege to serve the Women's Institute and its many partners as its Executive Director over the past eight years, and to work with an amazing group of dedicated staff, board members, and partners who make housing a reality for families and individuals in need. The future of the organization's work will be in expert, compassionate hands with Betsy, and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to continue to support the mission and work of the Women's Institute in the financial management and infrastructure role that I love."

We welcome the new ideas and energy that the combined experience of the Women's Institute's senior management will bring to affordable housing development, and we anticipate a streamlined transition as Loni will continue as part of our team. The Women's Institute will leverage this collective talent to further our mission and create new housing opportunities on a regional level. We look forward to the completion of new housing units with our many partners in communities throughout New England and across our private and public funders and supporters. Thank you for your ongoing support.

With warmest regards,

Christine Traczyk  
President, Board of Directors



*Affordable and Supportive Housing*



*Renovation and New Construction*



*Building Community*



15 Court Square  
Suite 210  
Boston, MA 02108

75 Charter Oak Avenue  
Suite 1-200  
Hartford, CT 06106

(800) 720-1195

[www.wihed.org](http://www.wihed.org)