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MEDIA ALERT

**VICTORY PROGRAMS OPENS DOORS TO “NEW JOELYN’S HOME” AGAINST BACKDROP OF GROWING OPIOID CRISIS
Grand Opening Celebration on May 18**

What: New Joelyn’s Home Grand Opening Celebration. New Joelyn’s Home is a new, 24-bed, residential recovery home for women with substance addiction housed in a fully renovated Victorian home in Roxbury. This latest addition to the Victory Programs’ family of health, housing and prevention programs is the crown jewel in the organization’s efforts to recover from the Long Island Bridge closing. It brings the organization’s women’s residential recovery services back to 98% of the capacity it had prior to the bridge closing two and a half years ago. New Joelyn’s Home is a fully functional residential treatment program for substance addiction and will be staffed with skilled direct-care clinicians and community case managers.

Background: Over the last two and a half years, Victory Programs has worked closely with the City of Boston, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and neighborhood groups to relocate vitally needed women’s residential recovery services against the backdrop of the growing opioid crisis.

“This is a tremendous, exciting new day for substance addiction treatment in Massachusetts,” says Victory Programs President and CEO, Jonathan Scott. “If it takes a village to raise a child, it took the support of the entire City and State to rebuild this magnificent program. It’s a miracle, really.”

When: May 18, 2017, 11 AM

Where: New Joelyn’s Home
Roxbury, MA (call for address)

Who: Confirmed Attendees: **Charlie Baker**, Massachusetts Governor; **Martin J. Walsh**, Boston Mayor; **Liz Malia**, State Representative; **Chrystal Kornegay**, Undersecretary, Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development; **Allison Bauer**, Director, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services; **Roger Herzog**, Executive Director, Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation; **Marylou Sudders**, Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services; **Tito Jackson**, Boston City Councilor, District 7; **Sheila Dillon**, Chief of Housing and Director of Neighborhood Development, City of Boston, **Pam Feingold**, Eastern Bank, Victory Programs Board Chair
Pending Confirmation: **Sonia Chang-Diaz**, State Senator

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About Victory Programs

Victory Programs has more than 40 years of experience opening doors to hope, health and housing for individuals and families in need. Since its inception in 1975, the agency has expanded to 18 health, housing and prevention programs providing shelter and recovery services to more than 2,300 people annually. Victory Programs has a storied history of responding to emerging needs in the community – from being one of the first agencies in Massachusetts to allow HIV positive clients into its addiction recovery programs in 1981 to launching a mobile prevention unit in 2015 capable of quick local responses to shifting and developing needs throughout. Since its founding, Victory Programs’ commitment to those facing homelessness, drug and alcohol addiction and or chronic illnesses such as HIV/AIDS remains its top priority.