

BRINGING KANSAS HOME

2011 KANSAS HOUSING CONFERENCE



KIM WILSON HOUSING RECEIVES 2011 AD ASTRA AWARD

--Kansas Housing Conference Honors WORTH Initiative
Serving Special-Needs Ex-Offenders--

Photo: James Glenn of Kim Wilson Housing, Inc. accepts the Ad Astra Award from KHRC's Dennis Mesa for Innovation in Housing and Community Development at the Kansas Housing Conference.

Wichita - The Kansas Housing Conference presented the 2011 Ad Astra Award for Innovation in Housing and Community Development to Kim Wilson Housing, Inc. (KWH) of Kansas City, Kansas. The award honors KWH'S accomplishments with the Wyandotte County Offender Reentry Treatment and Housing Initiative (WORTH).

WORTH, a housing reentry program which assists special-needs offenders with housing, mental health and substance abuse issues, provides services and programs aimed at facilitating an individual's successful reintegration into society. Accepting this year's award, James Glenn, KWH's Executive Director, thanked the many partners helping to make WORTH a success.

"The real work happens with the people we collaborate with, those individuals who assist the clients we house day in and day out," said Glenn. "Kim Wilson Housing builds the resources, but the people who stay in contact with the client and make sure they maintain their housing is where the hard work really comes in."

Partnerships created through the WORTH initiative include the Kansas Department of Corrections, Heartland Regional Alcohol & Drug Assessment Center, Wyandotte County Mental Health Center, private landlords and local housing authorities. Nationally the Corporation for Supportive Housing has provided resources and technical assistance.

Kim Wilson Housing, Inc. provides safe, decent and affordable housing options for individuals with mental illness, individuals at risk of becoming or who are currently homeless, families involved in domestic violence, individuals with chronic health problems, individuals reentering society after

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institutionalization, veterans and youth that have aged out of foster care system. The organization assists communities and organizations by providing expertise in:

- Stakeholder identification/recruitment and collaboration building
- Pre-development activities
- Program design
- Development and operational services
- Retooling, re-engineering existing housing/service programs
- Linking community-based housing programs with support service programs

To learn more about Kim Wilson Housing, Inc. visit their website at www.kimwilsonhousing.org. To listen to James Glenn's acceptance speech, click [here](#).

Presented annually at the Kansas Housing Conference, the Ad Astra Awards celebrate housing advocates who consistently make a positive impact on their communities and the best practices of affordable housing developers, public housing authorities, community service organizations and others. Other award categories include Special Achievement in Affordable Housing Development - Urban and Rural, Outstanding Housing Advocate, Affordable Housing Trail Blazer and Excellence in Partnership. For info about other 2011 Ad Astra Winners, visit www.kshousingconference.org.

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