

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Virginia Supportive Housing Announces New Executive Director**

*Allison Bogdanović selected to lead the state's largest provider  
of supportive housing*

**Richmond, VA – October 24, 2013** – Virginia Supportive Housing (VSH) is proud to announce today that Allison Bogdanović has been named Executive Director to lead the organization in its mission to provide a permanent solution to homelessness in the Commonwealth of Virginia. She will succeed Alice Tousignant, who is retiring effective January 1, 2014.

Russell T. Aaronson, III, VSH Board President, noted that Bogdanović rose to the top of a strong and varied pool of applicants following a vigorous regional and national search. “Allison has been an integral part of our success story at VSH,” Aaronson said. “She has the unique ability as an existing member of the team to ensure the continuation of our mission and the quality of our services. Her insights and experience at VSH have equipped her to address the diverse challenges of serving the homeless population, and embrace the changes that may present themselves as opportunities in the years to come.”

Bogdanović is set to take the helm of a statewide organization that currently developed, owns and operates 460 apartment units in Richmond, Hampton Roads and Charlottesville. It also has 225 units of scattered-site housing. VSH’s impressive results are reinforced by the fact that 98% of VSH’s residents do not return to homelessness.

The organization continues to grow. VSH is currently underway on two projects totaling \$16 million, including the development of 80 new units and renovation of 39 existing units within the next year.

“I am honored to become the next Executive Director of Virginia Supportive Housing and humbled by the support of the Board and my co-workers,” Bogdanović said. “There are great opportunities for our organization to continue its growth and fulfill its mission to provide a permanent solution to homelessness through our housing first model.”

Currently serving as the Director of Housing Development at VSH, Bogdanović has worked for the agency for over ten years. In her current role, she has helped VSH raise over \$45 million in capital funding and spearheaded developments in Richmond, Hampton Roads and Charlottesville.

“Allison will bring a new enthusiasm and energy to the role of executive director to build upon the foundation that has been created under Alice’s leadership,” Aaronson said. “As a Board, we could not be more pleased that Allison has proven that she is ready to lead,

having earned the respect of her peers, the confidence of our partners and the gratitude of our residents.”

Recognizing the important role that Tousignant has played in expanding VSH’s reach, Bogdanović noted, “Alice has built this organization into a leading provider of housing and supportive services. She has been a mentor to me, and I am excited to continue VSH’s mission through best-practices delivery of our services, as well as ensuring that our organization is financially positioned for long-term success.”

For additional information on VSH, please visit:

<http://www.virginiassupportivehousing.org/>.

### **About VSH**

Virginia Supportive Housing (VSH) is a not-for-profit that transforms lives, transforms communities and provides permanent solutions to homelessness by providing a “housing first” model program of permanent housing and supportive services.

Founded in 1988 (then known as SRO Housing of Richmond and renamed in 1999), VSH was the first not-for-profit in the Commonwealth with the mission of providing permanent supportive housing to homeless single adults. VSH developed, owns and operates 460 apartment units in Richmond, Hampton Roads and Charlottesville. It also has 225 units of scattered-site housing.

VSH provides residents with support services to help them handle their mental and physical health issues, and offers employment counseling and other specific needs to keep each individual resident independently stable and off the street for good. As a result of their efforts, 98% of VSH’s residents do not return to homelessness.

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