

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Virginia Supportive Housing's Alice Tousignant Inducted into
Virginia Housing Coalition's Hall of Fame**

Staff Member Julie Anderson Joins the Virginia Housing Coalition's Top 40 Network

Richmond, VA – June 24, 2014 –The Virginia Housing Coalition inducted Alice Tousignant, the executive director of Virginia Supportive Housing for 16 years until retiring in December 2013, into its Hall of Fame on June 19, 2014, at its annual luncheon.

The Hall of Fame recognizes exceptional leaders, now retired, whose work focused on ensuring the availability of affordable housing in Virginia.

The Coalition also named Virginia Supportive Housing's (VSH) Julie Anderson to its Top 40 Network, which highlights up-and-coming leaders who are making meaningful change and supporting the efforts of affordable housing. Anderson is a housing developer.

“Alice’s body of work extends far beyond the exceptional affordable housing VSH developed statewide under her leadership,” said Allison Bogdanovic, executive director of VSH who worked with Tousignant for 11 years. “By combining housing with supportive services for formerly homeless individuals, Alice helped create a proven model that boasts a 95 percent success rate of clients who stay housed permanently.”

In addition to her leadership at VSH, Tousignant also worked with colleagues in housing, homelessness, social services and with local, state and federal governments to advocate for systemic changes and solutions to prevent homelessness, implement rapid rehousing programs and keep formerly homeless people housed.

Anderson joined VSH in 2008. As a housing development officer, she coordinates complex real estate developments and has secured more than \$15 million in financing. Her efforts have helped to create 141 units of permanent supportive housing in Virginia.

Founded in 1988, the Virginia Housing Coalition is dedicated to supporting organizations and individuals working to provide affordable housing options in Virginia by influencing and developing public policy, recognizing exemplary achievement, and providing education, training, and services that will make its members more effective in attaining their goals. VHC is the voice for housing opportunity in Virginia.

About Virginia Supportive Housing

Virginia Supportive Housing provides permanent solutions to homelessness through its “housing first” model of permanent housing and supportive services. As a result of its proven approach, more than 95 percent of VSH’s residents do not return to homelessness. For more than 25 years, VSH has fulfilled its non-profit mission of ending homelessness. It developed and manages 16 apartment communities in Virginia and provides supportive service to more than 700 individuals and families, making it the largest supportive housing provider in Virginia. For more information, please visit www.virginiassupportivehousing.org.

###