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Skyline CAP to expand affordable housing in Madison County

MADISON, VA – (JULY 29, 2022) - Skyline CAP is pleased to announce the purchase of the five-unit apartment building known as Barbara's House from Madison Emergency Services Association (MESA) in Madison, Va. Located directly behind Skyline CAP's administrative offices, the property will be renovated for use as much-needed affordable housing. Skyline CAP is working with Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission (RRRC) to secure a grant that will cover a portion of the purchase price as well as minor modifications.

"MESA approached us last year to see if we would be interested in purchasing the property because we share a common vision of helping people in need in Madison County," said Simon Fiscus, Skyline CAP Executive Director. "The proposal was presented to our board of directors as an opportunity to increase the number of affordable housing units in Madison, and they enthusiastically agreed to the purchase."

Built in 2002, the building named Barbara's House provided shelter for participants of MESA's Family-In-Transition (FIT) program. It was named Barbara's House in memory of Barbara Sherman who was a founding member of MESA and served as its treasurer for many years. Over the next 20 years, the building housed more than 120 families. MESA made the decision to close Barbara's House in 2020.

"After long deliberation, review, and debate the MESA Board of Directors, with the help of an outside Financial Task Force, made the decision to close Barbara's House and sell it along with the former MESA buildings to an organization who shared MESA's vision and mission," said Eleanor Mower, MESA Executive Director. "The board was thrilled that the good folks at Skyline CAP were interested in purchasing Barbara's House and will operate it in a manner that is consistent with the original vision. The MESA Board of Directors thanks Skyline CAP for this opportunity to work together to improve lives in Madison County, and we look forward to more collaboration in the future."

Skyline CAP plans to renovate the building to add a sixth unit, replace appliances and make minor cosmetic changes. The units are scheduled to be available in the fall to applicants who meet income eligibility guidelines.

About Skyline CAP, Inc.

Skyline CAP, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit community action agency (CAA) working to improve the lives of those in need through education and housing programs designed to empower families and individuals to become self-sufficient. A designated CAA for Greene, Madison and Orange counties, Skyline CAP extends many of its programs to the counties of Fauquier, Page, Rappahannock, Shenandoah and Warren. For more information on Skyline CAP's programs and services, visit our website at www.skylinecap.org.

About Madison Emergency Services Association (MESA)

The Madison Emergency Services Association (MESA) is a 501(c)3 charitable organization established in 1982. Over the last 40 years, MESA has provided safety-net services to countless numbers of Madison County neighbors in need. Its resources include a food pantry, Thrift Shop, and emergency monetary assistance.

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