

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jenn Daley, Development Director (757) 253-0111, ext. 214 jdaley@baconstreet.org

Bacon Street Hosts Open House at New Hampton Location

HAMPTON, VA, August 16 – On August 20, from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. Bacon Street Youth and Family Services is hosting an open house and ribbon cutting at their newest location at 329 Buckroe Avenue in Hampton.

The Buckroe Avenue location is the third new Bacon Street office to open this year as part of the organization's "Journey Home" project. The project, which is being launched with a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, serves youth and their families who are struggling with substance abuse issues – and who are also homeless or precariously housed. An office in York County opened in January, and in Gloucester in April. The organization's main office is located on McLaws Circle in Williamsburg.

While all of Bacon Street's locations provide counseling and case management through "Journey Home," the Hampton location also serves as a drop-in center, giving homeless and precariously housed youth and families in the program access to laundry facilities, computers, showers, and hot meals. The drop-in center shares a space with H.E.L.P., Inc. (Hampton Roads Ecumenical Lodgings and Provisions Inc.)

"Mental health and substance use services are already limited for youth and young adults in our service area, and this becomes even more challenging for those who are homeless or precariously housed," says Kim Dellinger, Executive Director. "Those who are homeless or precariously housed are often dealing with meeting their basic needs before they have the 'bandwidth' to address mental health needs. Bacon Street's new drop-in center in Hampton will address those basic needs, and then, once stabilized, youth and their families will be able to begin the treatment process."

The community is welcome to attend the open house to learn more about Bacon Street and the "Journey Home" project. There will be light refreshments and a visit by Bacon Street's therapy piglet, Albert Einswine.

About Bacon Street Youth and Family Services

Founded in 1971, Bacon Street Youth and Family Services is a private, not-for-profit organization that provides services to young people and families affected by substance abuse and/or mental illness. To learn more about the services and how to can help, visit <u>www.baconstreet.org</u> or call us at 757-253-0111.

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