



*Serving youth for over 35 years*

*'Creating an environment for teen recovery through personal empowerment'*

April 22, 2017

**R House Community Partners:**

For some months now management and the Board have been focused on the issue of the viability of the R House program and the associated charter school, Abraxis. Due to this, the Board has directed staff to seek out every possible partner, engender every possible community connection and engage every idea that may lead to a path of sustainability for the R House endeavor. Alas, having exhausted all options available, the Board decided that a complete dissolution of the R House program and Abraxis Charter School was necessary. This closure will be a phased through the end of the current contacts (June 30, 2017). The Board also gave clear direction that staff advocate for ensuring every possible non-punitive option for the youth remaining in the care of the program be taken. They authorized activities and incentives for the youth to aide in their willingness to remain with the program until these appropriate transitions/alternative placements can be facilitated. Additionally, program staff has done exhaustive outreach to all youth that have separated from the program as AWOLs.

Therefore, we have begun this phase out by no longer accepting referrals which, in coordination with the active relocation of existing youth will allow for a gradual program and subsequent staffing roll down. The final service delivery will be for the youth enrolled in the public slots of Abraxis Charter School. The Board has committed to serving these youth until their graduation on June 2, which will fulfill 180 days of instruction.

On behalf of the countless young people that have successfully moved through the RHouse program over the years on their path towards healthy lifestyles and complete community integration, thank you for your support, commitment and partnership. It is clear that if community partners like you could affect the fate of this program through sheer will, we would not need to be shuttering this program. However, reality and funding being what they are – sheer will is not enough.

Respectfully,

Christopher Paige  
Executive Director

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