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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Press invited to attend.

The Association For Community Living Presents Community Living Award

Lynne Stanley of Turners Falls will receive THE ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING's Robert V. Agoglia Community Living Award. The award will be presented to Lynne at The Association's 54th Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony on Monday, June 18, 2007 at **The Log Cabin Banquet and Meeting House** in Holyoke.

The award is presented in honor of Robert V. Agoglia, a former Executive Director of The Association For Community Living, for his commitment and advocacy for the advancement of dignified community living for people with developmental disabilities. This award is given to an individual, or group, who arrange or provide supports which empower people with developmental disabilities living in the community, so they have more control over important decisions affecting their lives.

Lynne, who has been employed by The Association since February 2005, brings significant positive change and growth to the lives of four women served by Residential Supports, a division of The Association For Community Living, at their Greenfield home. She guides them through important changes and decisions that affect their lives.

One example of Lynne's careful guidance and attention occurred soon after Lynne started working with the women, who are three sisters and a roommate with developmental disabilities. Lynne helped them navigate through an emotional time of adjustment when one of the sisters needed to move to another location due to increased medical needs. To the delight of the women and their families, she faithfully arranged consistent, frequent visits and communication among the women.

In another instance, Chris, another of the four women served by Lynne, triumphed through Lynne's encouragement of a positive change and decision in life. She dedicated herself to helping Chris pursue physical therapy to use walker to ambulate in place of a wheelchair. With the assistance of her staff, Lynne made sure Chris attended all her appointments and exercised at home on a regular basis.

Recently, Chris attended a physical therapy session where Lynne asked the therapist if Chris could use a walker to ambulate. At first, the physical therapist was tentative, but then decided to try at Lynne's request. After a few tries Chris was able to maneuver the walker independently. Lynne reported the look of accomplishment on Chris's face that said, "I did it!"

It is with this vision and belief that Lynne and her staff see beyond the day to day routines and encourage *the women whose home is on Bouker Street* to grow and thrive. For these reasons, Lynne Stanley will receive the Robert V. Agoglia Community Living Award.

The Association For Community Living's 54th Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony will be held at The Log Cabin Banquet and Meeting House, 500 Easthampton Road, Holyoke, beginning with a cash bar social hour at 5:00 p.m. and followed by a sit-down dinner at 6:00 p.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance. For more information please contact Tracy Hernandez at (800) 536-2910, ext. 103, or hernandt@theassn.org.

The Association For Community Living was founded in 1952 by five mothers of children with mental retardation. Headquartered in Springfield, The Association has satellite offices in Athol, Easthampton, Greenfield, Northampton, and Pittsfield. For more information on The Association For Community Living visit our website at: www.theassn.org.

To make a donation, include us in your will, or donate a charitable planned gift to The Association For Community Living, please contact Beverly Herbert, Director of Development and External Communications, at (800) 536 -2910, or visit our website at: www.thessn.org, click the link "Make a Gift", or email us at donations@theassn.org to request more information.



photo – Lynne Stanley