Opening Doors
2100 Asbury Road, Suite 8
Dubuque, IA 52001
563-582-7480
Contacts: Carol Gebhart, Executive Director
Email: cgebhart@openingdoorsdbq.org

For Immediate Release

McDonough Foundation Awards $15K to Opening Doors

DUBUQUE (August 1, 2018) – The McDonough Foundation awarded Opening Doors with a $15,000 grant for permanent supportive housing. This funding coincides with the first year anniversary of the opening of Francis Apartments located on the Steeple Square campus.

Francis Apartments opened August 1, 2017. Through collaboration with Steeple Square and Gronen Properties, eight of the 12 apartments are designated for Opening Doors' clients. This third doorway of hope couples supportive services with affordable permanent housing. "Lack of affordable housing is the number one reason why families become homeless," said Opening Doors' Executive Director Carol Gebhart. "Over the past year, this program has proven to break the cycle of homeless and poverty in our community."

Clients living in Francis Apartments receive supportive services from their Opening Doors Case Manager. In addition, thanks to funding from the McDonough Foundation, rents are subsidized so that no one will pay more than 30% of their income on housing.

The women and families Opening Doors refers to the apartments have worked hard on improving their lives and meeting their goals. They are committed to rebuilding their lives and have demonstrated that commitment by the positive changes they have made while living at Teresa Shelter and Maria House.

Francis Apartments are owned by Steeple Square and managed by Gronen Properties.

Opening Doors is the nonprofit organization that operates Teresa Shelter, Maria House and the permanent supportive housing program at Francis Apartments. Homeless women, alone or with children, come to us to help rebuild their lives. We provide goal setting and life skills training that will enable them to take care of themselves and achieve their full potential. Women are dependent when they come in…independent when they leave.

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