

1600 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 654-2309

November 20, 2008

Amy Turk, Director Daybreak Programs 1751 Cloverfield Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90404

Dear Ms. Turk:

On behalf of the California Department of Mental Health (DMH), I am honored to acknowledge the Ocean Park Community Center's Daybreak Program, for winning the 2008 Projects for the Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) Exemplary Practice Award, in the area of Consumer Empowerment. The Daybreak Program's mission of empowering women recovering from homelessness and mental illness to rebuild their lives through creative, personal and financial growth exemplifies the recovery and resilience principles of DMH. In addition, Daybreak helps women who are facing the multiple challenges of co-occurring mental illness, substance addiction, and repeated incidents of domestic violence regain a sense of self worth and begin the healing and rebuilding process of their lives.

In recognition of the Daybreak Program's achievement, DMH will post this congratulatory letter on the department's website, at <u>www.dmh.ca.gov</u>. Additionally, DMH will forward to you a plaque from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Department, which DMH accepted on behalf of the Daybreak Program at the PATH Program's State Contacts Meeting. In addition to the plaque, SAMHSA will send an official letter announcing your organization as the winner of this award.

Thank you to the dedicated workforce of professionals at Ocean Park Community Center's Daybreak Program who provide these services empowering women who are striving to change their lives.

Sincerely,

STEPHEN W. MAYBERG, Ph.D Director