
NEWS RELEASE

Judd Gregg

United States Senator for New Hampshire
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Contact: Erin Rath/Jeff Turcotte

SENATOR GREGG ANNOUNCES \$715,320 HEADING TO NASHUA FOR TWO COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Marguerite's Place and Nashua downtown investment project to receive boost

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) today announced that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will be releasing \$715,320 in federal funding secured by Senator Gregg through his position on the Senate Appropriations Committee. Two Nashua-based organizations will receive funding for their programs: \$178,830 for the Nashua public investment initiative to rejuvenate the downtown area; and \$536,490 for Marguerite's Place to continue its mission for another four years, in providing safe, affordable, transitional housing for women and children who have been victims of domestic abuse and access to affordable day care to its residents. Senator Gregg, who was able to secure \$600,000 in funding in 1999 to support Marguerite's Place from 1999-2003, joined Marguerite's Place CEO Sister Sharon Walsh and Chairman of the Board of Directors, John Parolin for a tour of recent renovations at Marguerite's Place last year. A detailed list of the programs is listed below.

Senator Gregg stated, "Nashua has built a solid reputation as one of the greatest cities in the nation in which to live and raise a family. These two programs speak to the tremendous effort local residents make to enhance that reputation by providing the resources and energy to improve the quality of life for those in the City and surrounding areas. The downtown investment program is focused on the worthwhile goal of preserving the character of downtown Nashua, an important piece of our State's heritage and an initiative that fosters pride among residents. The continued work being done at Marguerite's Place, an organization I have had the pleasure of working with for many years, provides humanitarian and financial support for women experiencing a difficult period and help them get back on track. I am pleased to see HUD release the funding for these important programs."

Sister Sharon Walsh, CEO of Marguerite's Place, stated, "One of the our beliefs at Marguerite's Place is that we truly believe in the power of a person to change. That empowerment can only be realized if we are given the support to make it happen. These funds are a life-saver for us and will be used to inspire hope and life for so many people. We are indebted to Senator Gregg not only for this funding but for all he has done for us for so many years."

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Nashua Mayor Bernie Streeter stated, "Our gratitude goes to Senator Gregg for pursuing this funding. The opportunity for continued investment into our downtown - for planning, programming and amenities - is a tribute to his leadership and vision."

\$536,490 – Marguerite’s Place

Marguerite’s Place helps women between the ages of 18-45 who are pregnant and/or have children under age 12 and who have been victims of abuse by taking these women in, since many are homeless or in danger of being homeless, and providing them housing for up to two years. While living there, the women must either work or go to school and are required to pay utilities and maintain their apartments. Marguerite’s Place provides on-site daycare and offers an after-care program after the two years of stay to insure the women do not fall back into their old lives.

Contact: Sr. Sharon Walsh, Director of Marguerite’s Place, 598-1582

\$178,830 – Nashua Downtown Public Investment Initiative

This award will fund the development of a comprehensive facade restoration and preservation program for Nashua’s historic downtown structures and include the development of a downtown public space design program to focus on decorative lighting, sidewalk trees and flowers and interpretive historic signs. It will also allow for the creation of a special events/arts/street performance program in the downtown district. These funds will further enhance Nashua’s reputation as vibrant, diverse city.

Contact: Kathy Hersh, Community Development Director, 589-3095

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