



July 26, 2010

**Lynn, MA** - Today, Congressman John Tierney (D-MA) announced that Bridgewell, a Lynnfield-based nonprofit, received a \$1,715,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, to build ten units of housing for local seniors and residents with developmental disabilities in Lynn. The program and apartments are designed to allow residents to live independently.

*"During these challenging economic times, it is critical that our communities continue to be able to offer affordable housing, especially housing for senior citizens and adults with disabilities. This federal funding will allow Bridgewell to build affordable homes for local residents who require supportive services and will allow more people with disabilities to lead independent and safe lives in their communities. I commend Bridgewell for providing meaningful support services for those in need,"* said Congressman Tierney. Bridgewell was one of just two Section 811 programs funded in Massachusetts.

Bridgewell's Chief Executive Officer, Robert S. Stearns said "This grant, the third Section 811 grant that Bridgewell has received in the past 3 years, indicates that Bridgewell is clearly seen - on both state and federal levels - as a leader in the disabilities arena. We are pleased to have the opportunity to develop this new apartment building, which represents part of our ongoing commitment to provide accessible housing for individuals with disabilities. We would like to thank Congressman Tierney, the congressional delegation and local legislators for their assistance and support in securing the funding for a project that addresses a critical need. The funding is particularly helpful in this time of limited resources."

Bridgewell is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and helping individuals with disabilities to direct their own lives, achieve personal and professional success and remain active participants in society. Bridgewell provides services to nearly 3,000 individuals each in Eastern Massachusetts. To learn more about Bridgewell go to <http://www.bridgewell.org>.