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**CFH ACQUIRES EAST END MOBILE HOME PARK**

**Manassas, Va., January 11 –** Catholics for Housing, a Northern Virginia nonprofit, today completed the purchase of a mobile home park in Manassas whose future has been uncertain for more than a year. The purchase by CFH enables all residents of the East End Mobile Home Park to stay in their homes.Now that the purchase of the 60-unit park is complete, the nonprofit will implement plans to resolve the significant water and sewer issues that have plagued Residents for more than nine years.

“It’s so gratifying to have this all-important first phase completed and to be able to own and operate the park in a way that benefits this entire community,” said CFH Executive Director Karen DeVito. “We are thrilled that our skills, expertise, resources and commitment to preserving housing opportunities will not only keep these families in their homes, but also enhance their quality of life by creating a safe and sustainable community.”

This stretch of Centreville Road has been home to residents of three mobile home parks for many years. The original owners sold all but East End, which was kept in the family and managed by an agent for the last 10 years. DeVito has met many residents who have lived in the Park for 20 years or more; the park is home to approximately 300 adults and children.

It often takes an entire community to make a positive impact and create a sustainable community, DeVito observed, and that is certainly the case with East End. Since it first became apparent that the acquisition of East End Mobile Home Park by CFH would save the homes for so many and would also be a viable business opportunity, CFH has developed a vision for East End and has worked with the residents, financial partners, advocates and the staff and elected officials of the City of Manassas. “It has truly taken a village to sustain the housing opportunities at East End,” commented DeVito.

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Catholics for Housing provides a continuum of housing, providing direct service programs to limited income households as well as workforce rental and homeownership opportunities and a comprehensive life skills program that helps people identify and reach their goals. The Board of Directors of CFH represents a diverse group of individuals who provide expertise in business, development, architecture, financial services and the real estate industry.

DeVito, who has over 27 years’ experience in creating and managing housing opportunities, has trained the CFH staff who have been working for several months to begin the management of the park. CFH has provided all needed information to the residents; DeVito herself met individually with residents to review and execute their lease agreements, which provide a five-year lease term with a sustained rental rate. “It has been a real pleasure to share the CFH vision for East End with the residents and to hear their stories of living at the park,” she commented. She and her staff have worked with each resident to address their unique situations. They have also assured each resident that CFH will manage the property in a way that creates a safe community, with respect for each resident. This has been an important first step to creating a successful partnership between residents and CFH staff, designed to result in a safe, well maintained and sustainable community.

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