August 10, 2015

Beverly Garcia, Program Director PSCH - Island House 4029 Long Beach Rd Island Park, NY 11558 tel: (516) 432-1935

filecopy

Dear Ms Garcia,

cc:

I'm writing with joy to tell you that I'm so glad to be living at Island House! There are lots of things about it that make me happy. Some are:

- ★ NO STAIRS between the street and my apartment! (Not wrestling my walker over a stoop is critical to keeping my pain-level down.) YAAY!
- \* NO STAIRS between the apartment and the laundry-room! (Not struggling with a hamper is another biggie that helps me have less pain). YAAY!
- \* The hallways and lounges are VERY clean.
- \* A fresh-food market is nearby.
- \* The staffers at the front desk know me by name.

After 17 years of being without a home, it is wonderful to have MY OWN SPACE. Really, I am filled with gratitude for being here. And today -- after seven weeks of asking! -- PSCH finally removed the huge, broken-down "captains bed" from my apartment (and I've temporarily replaced it with a borrowed trundle bed). So now, for the first time since the lease signing, I can start spending my nights here at Island House, rather than couch-surfing.

I'm beginning to unpack my cartons of clothing. Soon my freshly cleaned rugs can be delivered, followed by my cupboard and armoire. Oh, how lovely it is to nest!

Thanks for your warm welcome, Bev. I look forward to a good stay.

Juli Straehle

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Melinda Thomas, Care Coordinator -- Jewish Board of Children's and Family Services