

URBAN PASTORS NETWORK  
September 13, 2011

FOR ACTION

Motion of Support by the Presbytery of Cincinnati for  
The Anna Louise Inn

The Presbytery of Cincinnati supports the mission of the Anna Louise Inn, which has provided safe and affordable housing for women for 102 years in its current location. The Presbytery of Cincinnati recognizes that women in Cincinnati have an option for permanent supportive housing in a location that is within walking distance of downtown Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky and that is close to a bus line.

The Anna Louise Inn is a good neighbor and contributes to the economic vitality of its neighborhood and the city. The July, 2010 award to Cincinnati Union Bethel of tax credits from the Ohio Housing Finance Agency will provide for the renovation and upgrade of The Anna Louise Inn facilities for the women it serves. The renovation will enable the Anna Louise Inn to remain in compliance with historic preservation standards. And, the renovation will create jobs.

Successful center city economic development is about using the best models where market rate and affordable housing co-exist. The Lytle Park District has that. The Phelps Apartments, Park Place, many other market rate condominiums and apartments and the Anna Louise Inn have lived in harmony for years.

The Anna Louise Inn should remain where it is and continue its mission of providing safe and affordable housing for single women which was identified as a top priority in the City's Homeless to Homes Plan. The Presbytery of Cincinnati affirms that the renovation of the Anna Louise Inn is good for our city, good for the Lytle Park district, and the community as a whole.

The officers of the Presbytery of Cincinnati will communicate this strong endorsement of support for The Anna Louise Inn to the City Council and Mayor of Cincinnati, to the media, and to other agencies and businesses who have raised questions about the mission and location of The Anna Louise Inn. This stance of the Presbytery of Cincinnati is in keeping with the policy position of the Presbyterian Church (USA) policy paper "From Homelessness to Hope" (2008) in which the General Assembly of the PCUSA affirmed that "Universal access to safe, decent, accessible, affordable, and permanent housing is a measure of a truly just society and a sign of the coming reign of God."