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CITY COUNCIL

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October 31, 2014

Mr. Brian Hudson
Executive Director
Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency
211 N Front St
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17101-1406

RE: **Francis House, 4460 Fairmount Avenue Senior Affordable Housing
Letter of Support**

Dear Mr. Hudson,

It is with great pleasure that I offer my support for St. Ignatius Nursing and Rehab Center's funding application to develop senior affordable housing at 4460 Fairmount Avenue, known as Francis House. As City Councilwoman for the 3rd Council District where the older population is growing steadily, many elderly residents are finding it extremely difficult to find and maintain housing that is both affordable and meets their needs as they age. Francis House would provide 60 units of affordable housing for frail seniors, with strong supportive services and resources to enable them to age in place.

St. Ignatius has a long history of successfully developing facilities and providing comprehensive supportive services for low-income seniors in West Philadelphia. Its experience has enabled residents to live life to the fullest with dignity, affordability and safety.

The proposed facility and amenities will enable seniors to remain close to families, neighbors and religious communities and improve their quality of life through the provision of affordable, quality housing and comprehensive supportive services.

I applaud St. Ignatius for their ongoing commitment to fulfill the needs of our most vulnerable community. With your support, St. Ignatius will be able to remain committed to sustaining the lives of local residents through adequate and affordable housing and supportive services. To that end, I hope that you favorably consider this letter of support as you review their submission. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Janni L. Blackwell
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JLb/pr