STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD)
One Capitol Hill, 3rd Floor
Providence, RI 02908-5873

January 16, 2018

Via Electronic and Regular Mail

Karen A. Santilli
President & CEO
Crossroads Rhode Island
160 Broad Street
Providence, RI 02903

Re: *Rhode Island Homeless Advocacy Project, et al. v. Raimondo, et al.*
            C.A. No. 17-602S

Dear Ms. Santilli,

As you are aware, the ACLU has filed a lawsuit against the State in the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island contesting the amendment to R.I. Gen. Laws 42-11.2-11(c) that became effective January 1, 2018. The amendment places a limit on the number of sex offenders that can stay in emergency shelters located on state property, and, therefore would apply to the Harrington Hall shelter. The State, through the Office of Community Development, has a contract with Crossroads Rhode Island with respect to Harrington Hall. The lawsuit raises legal issues involving the limit on the number of sex offenders that can stay at a shelter on any given night and the State intends to address those legal challenges raised by the lawsuit. The State appreciates the work that Crossroads does for those less fortunate in Rhode Island, its operation of this shelter for homeless men, and its work with sex offenders to find alternative housing and ultimately reach the ten percent (10) goal set forth in statute.

This letter is to advise you that during the pendency of the lawsuit that there will be no adverse consequences to Crossroads Rhode Island by the State regarding the operation of Harrington Hall should the nightly occupancy exceed that set forth in to R.I. Gen. Laws 42-11.2-11(c) while the State, Crossroads and other stakeholders continue the ongoing work toward reaching the goals set for sex offenders in the statute. We appreciate your work on this issue. If you or anyone at Crossroads Rhode Island should have any questions, please let me know.

Very truly yours,

Michael Tondra
Chief