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**** Press Release ****

**Congressman Rob Simmons to Meet With
Supportive Housing Advocates in Willimantic**

WHEN: Thursday, August 21st at 10:00 a.m.

WHERE: Brick Row Apartments
25 Vermont Drive
Willimantic, CT

WHO: Congressman Simmons will meet with housing advocates, developers, service providers, and public officials

This meeting will allow the Congressman's constituents to brief him on the need for more supportive housing in the 2nd Congressional District, and on efforts underway to address this need. Advocates hope to gain his support for federal legislation to provide more funding for services in supportive housing. The meeting will include an overview of some efforts to revitalize Main Street in Willimantic.

Brick Row Apartments is a supportive housing success story in Willimantic. The development houses tenants who were formerly homeless or at-risk of homelessness, due to mental illness, chemical dependency or chronic health challenges. It combines affordable apartments with on-site access to support services. Supportive housing of this sort is a proven, cost-effective means of re-integrating families and individuals into the community. It is a less expensive and more effective alternative to institutional settings.

For more information contact Shelby Mertes or Kate Kelly at the Partnership for Strong Communities – (860) 247-4322.