MICHAEL F. BENNET

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0609

WASHINGTON, DC:

458 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20510 (202) 224-5852

> COLORADO: 2300 15TH STREET SUITE 450

http://www.bennet.senate.gov

November 20, 2011

Sue Birch, Executive Director
Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
1570 Grant St.
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Birch,

I am writing this letter in support of the proposed project in the Mirasol Senior Living Community planned by the Housing Authority of the City of Loveland (HACOL) and modeled after the Green House Project.

The Green House Project model is an innovative approach to senior residential care that provides more comfortable living spaces within small group homes, allowing for more personalized care and better quality of life for residents. This model utilizes a small house design with limited private bedrooms and private baths, with a full range of personal and clinical services expected for individuals needing 24-hour nursing care.

HACOL, Mirasol, and their private partner, Pinon Management, have expressed their commitment to building and managing a project that utilizes this innovative model in conjunction with HACOL's mission "to provide low and moderate income residents of Loveland with opportunities for home and community through housing." HACOL currently operates the Mirasol Community, which currently offers single family homes and apartments to adults 55 and older on a 25-acre campus in Loveland, and HACOL would like to expand their services to seniors through this project.

Thank you for considering HACOL's proposal to establish Green House homes in Loveland. Green House projects throughout the United States have a great track record of success, and I look forward to seeing the success of similar projects here in Colorado.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Bennet United State Senator

WUF. Rt

State Representative JOHN KEFALAS Colorado State Capitol 200 E. Colfax Ave, Room 271 Denver, CO 80203 Capitol: 303-866-4569 Home: 970-221-1135



Member:
Finance Committee
Health & Environment
Committee

COLORADO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

State Capitol Denver 80203

November 7, 2011

Sue Birch, Executive Director Health Care Policy and Financing 1570 Grant St. Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Sue,

I am writing this letter in support of the Green House Model planned by the Housing Authority of the City of Loveland (HACOL), located at 1153 Finch Street, Loveland, Colorado in the Mirasol Senior Living Community.

HACOL and its Executive Director, Sam Betters, are committed to the success of this innovative model for nursing homes and plan to further HACOL's vision to provide low and moderate-income elder residents a home and community with the addition of a skilled nursing facility and the benefit of aging in the community. HACOL operates the successful Mirasol Community, currently offering single family homes and apartments to adults 55 and older on a 25-acre beautiful campus in Loveland.

The Green House Model envisioned by Dr. William Thomas, the founder of the Eden Alternative, combines a small home environment with the full range of personal and clinical services expected for individuals needing 24-hour nursing care in a high-quality community setting. The Green House Model provides a small house design – like a private home with 8-12 private bedrooms and private baths.

HACOL has hired Colorado-based Pinon Management, a leading nursing home management company, to serve as consultant and the eventual management company for the Green House community. Pinon is dedicated to this model and its philosophy to enhance elders' quality of life and dignity by creating intentional and integrated communities. Pinon Management's history of creating and driving innovative models of care affords a strong and committed partner with HACOL to bring this exciting project to the Loveland community.

Sue, as you well know, we must think and operate outside the box to be innovative and spend our precious Medicaid dollars as effectively as we can, especially when it comes to long-term care. While Loveland is not directly in my house district, it is in Larimer County and this model fits in nicely with our regional visioning process to enhance quality of life and provide sustainable solutions to complex problems.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support this project because it makes sense, and I know the people involved have a solid track record of successful and creative affordable housing developments over many years. The **Mirasol** Community is but one example. Thank you for your consideration and please let me know how I can be helpful.

Sincerely.

John Kefalas



STATE OF COLORADO

John W. Hickenlooper, Governor

Department of Local Affairs
Reeves Brown, Executive Director

Division of Housing Pat Coyle, Director

November 7, 2011

Sue Birch, Executive Director Health Care Policy and Financing 1570 Grant St. Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Birch,

I am writing this letter in support of the Green House Model planned by the Housing Authority of the City of Loveland, Colorado (HACOL), located at 1153 Finch Street, Loveland, Colorado, in the Mirasol Senior Living Community.

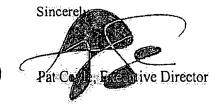
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The Green House Model envisioned by Dr. William Thomas, the founder of the Eden Alternative, combines a small home environment with the full range of personal and clinical services expected for individuals needing 24-hour nursing care in a high-quality community setting. The Green House Model provides a small house design, designed like a private home with 8-12 private bedrooms and private baths.

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The Colorado Division of Housing is familiar with the plans for this model of care and wants to support this effort. In conclusion, The Colorado Division of Housing is fully committed to the sustained success of the Green House Model in collaboration with HACOL and the Mirasol community.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to working with HACOL and Pinon Management to bring this vision to reality:







November 8, 2011

Sue Birch, Executive Director Health Care Policy and Financing 1570 Grant St. Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Sue,

On behalf of the Colorado Gerontological Society, we would like to support of the Green House Model planned by the Housing Authority of the City of Loveland, located at 1153 Finch Street, Loveland, Colorado, in the Mirasol Senior Living Community.

The Green House Model is an innovative delivery system of care for elders in our communities. Currently, The Marisol Community provides low and moderate income residents housing in a home and community environment. The addition of a skilled nursing facility will allow residents the benefit of aging in a familiar community on a 25-acre campus in Loveland.

The Green House Model envisioned by Dr. William Thomas, the founder of the Eden Alternative, combines a small home environment with the full range of personal and clinical services expected for individuals needing 24-hour nursing care in a high-quality community setting. The Green House Model provides a small house design, designed like a private home with 8-12 private bedrooms and private baths.

As older adults look for ways to age in their community, the option of the Green House Model provides yet another alternative to reduce the fear and concern that is often associated with placement in a nursing home. The Society supports the development of this model in Colorado to begin to provide nursing home level services in an alternative setting.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to working with the Mirosal Community to bring this vision to reality.

Sincerely,

EILEEN DOHERTY, M.S.

Executive Director

Eilen Dokerty

970 472 9798 phone 970 493 1571 facsimile 800 272 3900 HELPLINE

November 10, 2011

alzheimer's % association

Sue Birch, Executive Director Health Care Policy and Financing 1570 Grant St. Denver, Colorado 80203

re: Letter of support for HACOL Green House project

Dear Ms. Birch,

I am writing this letter in support of the Green House Model planned by the Housing Authority of the City of Loveland, Colorado (HACOL), located at 1153 Finch Street, Loveland, Colorado, in the Mirasol Senior Living Community.

HACOL and its Executive Director, Sam Betters, are committed to the success of this innovative model for nursing homes and plan to further HACOL's vision to provide low and moderate income residents with home and community, with the addition of a skilled nursing facility, and the benefit of aging in community. HACOL operates the successful Mirasol Community, currently offering single family homes and apartments to adults 55 and older on a 25-acre beautiful campus in Loveland.

The Green House Model envisioned by Dr. William Thomas, the founder of the Eden Alternative, combines a small home environment with the full range of personal and clinical services expected for individuals needing 24-hour nursing care in a high-quality community setting. The Green House Model provides a small house design, designed like a private home with 8-12 private bedrooms and private baths.

HACOL has hired Colorado-based Pinon Management, a leading nursing home management company, to serve as consultant and the eventual management company for the Green House community. Pinon Management's history of creating and driving innovative models of care affords a strong and committed partner with HACOL to bring this exciting project to the Loveland community.

The Alzheimer's Association is familiar with the plans for this model of care and wants to offer our support for a model that echoes our philosophy of providing person centered care in all residential settings. We look forward to the approval and implementation of this important addition to the Mirasol campus. As our demographics change and we are challenged by the needs of those affected by memory loss, the need for appropriate and supportive housing options will become all the more critical.

In conclusion, the Alzheimer's Association fully supports the success of The Green House model in collaboration with HACOL and the Mirasol community.

Sincerely,

Emmalie Conner, M.S.

Regional Director, Colorado Chapter



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Civic Center • 500 East Third Street, Suite 330 • Loveland, CO 80537 (970) 962-2303 • Fax (970) 962-2900 • TDD (970) 962-2620 www.cityofloveland.org

November 28, 2011

Sue Birch, Executive Director Health Care Policy and Financing 1570 Grant St. Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Birch,

I am writing this letter in support of the Green House Model planned by the Housing Authority of the City of Loveland, Colorado (HACOL), located at 1153 Finch Street, Loveland, Colorado, in the Mirasol Senior Living Community.

HACOL and its Executive Director, Sam Betters, are committed to the success of this innovative model for nursing homes and plan to further HACOL's vision to provide low and moderate income residents with home and community, with the addition of a skilled nursing facility, and the benefit of aging in community. HACOL operates the successful Mirasol Community, currently offering single family homes and apartments to adults 55 and older on a 25-acre beautiful campus in Loveland.

The Green House Model envisioned by Dr. William Thomas, the founder of the Eden Alternative, combines a small home environment with the full range of personal and clinical services expected for individuals needing 24-hour nursing care in a high-quality community setting. The Green House Model provides a small house design, designed like a private home with 8-12 private bedrooms and private baths.

HACOL has hired Colorado-based Pinon Management, a leading nursing home management company, to serve as consultant and the eventual management company for the Green House community. Pinon is dedicated to this model and its philosophy to enhance elders' quality of life and create intentional communities. Pinon Management's history of creating and driving innovative models of care affords a strong and committed partner with HACOL to bring this exciting project to the Loveland community.

In reviewing the Green House Model – I feel this sort of Senior living environment would be much preferable to a standard nursing home environment and will serve the aging populace of our community in a new and innovative manner which will fit well with Mirasol's award winning community atmosphere.

Loveland is currently short on available Medicaid beds. I urge your department to consider this new program as a vehicle to add beds to a community that is in desperate need of additional low-cost nursing beds.

In conclusion, I would like to offer my support for the Green house model proposed by HACOL, and urge the State of Colorado to assist HACOL, and the Mirasol community in all ways possible to offer this new, innovative model to the Seniors of Loveland.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Girl a. Huture

Cecil A. Gutierrez, Mayor



November 3, 2011

Sue Birch, Executive Director
Health Care Policy and Financing
1570 Grant St., Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Birch,

I am writing this letter in support of the Green House Model planned by the Housing Authority of the City of Loveland, Colorado (HACOL), located at 1153 Finch Street, Loveland, Colorado, in the Mirasol Senior Living Community.

HACOL and its Executive Director, Sam Betters, are committed to the success of this innovative model for nursing homes and plan to further HACOL's vision to provide low and moderate income residents with home and community, with the addition of a skilled nursing facility, and the benefit of aging in community. HACOL operates the successful Mirasol Community, currently offering single family homes and apartments to adults 55 and older on a 25-acre beautiful campus in Loveland.

The Green House Model envisioned by Dr. William Thomas, the founder of the Eden Alternative, combines a small home environment with the full range of personal and clinical services expected for individuals needing 24-hour nursing care in a high-quality community setting. The Green House Model provides a small house design, designed like a private home with 8-12 private bedrooms and private baths.

HACOL has hired Colorado-based Pinon Management, a leading nursing home management company, to serve as consultant and the eventual management company for the Green House community. Pinon is dedicated to this model and its philosophy to enhance elders' quality of life and create intentional communities. Pinon Management's history of creating and driving innovative models of care affords a strong and committed partner with HACOL to bring this exciting project to the Loveland community.

The City of Loveland is familiar with the plans for this model of care and wants to offer support this effort by:

- 1. As a City Councilor, I am aware that the City of Loveland has financially supported affordable housing in Mirasol in the past and expects to do so in the future with additional fee waivers. I understand that HACOL has received state tax credits to pursue the second phase of affordable housing at Mirasol including Green House.
- 2. As an elder law attorney dealing with Medicaid families, I am keenly aware of the need for this model of care and housing in our Loveland community.

In conclusion, the City of Loveland is fully committed to the sustained success of **The Green House model** in collaboration with **HACOL** and the **Mirasol** community. Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to supporting the ongoing efforts of HACOL and Pinon Management to bring this vision to reality.

Sincerely, Carol Johnson

Carol Johnson, Loveland City Councilor

Daryle W. Slasser Sue Birch, Executive Diester Health Cane Policy & Financing Denver Coloxado Decer 11/2. Birch I am writing this letter in support of the Green House Model playing by the Housing Unthority of the Celes Threekind, Colorado (HACOA) in the Mirasof Series Seving Community. The Green House Madel envisioned by Dr. William Thomas, the founder of the Eden alternative, Combines & small home environment with the full sange of personal and clinical services expected for individuals meeding 24 Hour Messing Cane. as I overlook the Greenhouse midel, it would seem this environment would be much preserable to a standard mursing Manu situation Toucland is currently short on available Medicaid beds. I offer my support for the Green House model proposed by HACOL. Dencerely Danile Blassen Celle Councilman, Wined One Touesand, Colorade

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR HACOL GREENHOUSE PROJECT

November 28, 2011

Sue Birch, Executive Director Health Care Policy and Financing 1570 Grant St. Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Birch,

I am writing this letter in support of the Green House Model planned by the Housing Authority of the City of Loveland, Colorado (HACOL), located at 1153 Finch Street, Loveland, Colorado, in the Mirasol Senior Living Community.

HACOL and its Executive Director, Sam Betters, are committed to the success of this innovative model for nursing homes and plan to further HACOL's vision to provide low and moderate income residents with home and community, with the addition of a skilled nursing facility, and the benefit of aging in community. HACOL operates the successful Mirasol Community, currently offering single family homes and apartments to adults 55 and older on a 25-acre beautiful campus in Loveland.

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In reviewing the Green House Model – I feel this sort of Senior living environment would be much preferable to a standard nursing home environment and will serve the aging populace of our community in a new and innovative manner which will fit well with Mirasol's award winning community atmosphere.

Loveland is currently short on available Medicaid beds. I urge your department to consider this new program as a vehicle to add beds to a community that is in desperate need of additional low-cost nursing beds.

In conclusion, I would like to offer my support for the Green house model proposed by HACOL, and urge the State of Colorado to assist HACOL, and the Mirasol community in all ways possible to offer this new, innovative model to the Seniors of Loveland.

Sincerely,

John Fogle

Loveland City Council, Ward 3

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR HACOL GREENHOUSE PROJECT

November 29, 2011

Sue Birch, Executive Director Health Care Policy and Financing 1570 Grant St. Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Birch.

I am writing this letter in support of the Green House Model planned by the Housing Authority of the City of Loveland, Colorado (HACOL), located at 1153 Finch Street, Loveland, Colorado, in the Mirasol Senior Living Community.

HACOL and its Executive Director, Sam Betters, are committed to the success of this innovative model for nursing homes and plan to further HACOL's vision to provide low and moderate income residents with home and community, with the addition of a skilled nursing facility, and the benefit of aging in community. HACOL operates the successful Mirasol Community, currently offering single family homes and apartments to adults 55 and older on a 25-acre beautiful campus in Loveland.

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Loveland is currently short on available Medicaid beds. I urge your department to consider this new program as a vehicle to add beds to a community that is in desperate need of additional low-cost nursing beds.

In conclusion, I would like to offer my support for the Green house model proposed by HACOL, and urge the State of Colorado to assist HACOL, and the Mirasol community in all ways possible to offer this new, innovative model to the Seniors of Loveland.

Chauncey Taylor

Loveland City Council, Ward 1



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

1501 Blue Spruce Drive

Fort Collins, CO 80524

(970) 498-6300

Fax (970) 498-6304

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR HACOL GREENHOUSE ROJECT

November 7, 2011

Sue Birch, Executive Director Health Care Policy and Financing 1570 Grant St. Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Birch,

I am writing to confirm our support of the Green House Model planned by the Housing Authority of the City of Loveland, Colorado (HACOL), located at 1153 Finch Street, Loveland, Colorado, in the Mirasol Senior Living Community.

HACOL and its Executive Director, Sam Betters, are committed to the success of this innovative model for housing and continuum of care for seniors in our community. HACOL operates the successful Mirasol Community, currently offering single family homes and apartments to adults 55 and older on a 25-acre beautiful campus in Loveland. They plan to further HACOL's vision to serve low and moderate income residents with the addition of a skilled nursing facility, and benefit the aging in a community setting.

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The Larimer County Department of Human Services has a long history of provision of services to elderly and disabled citizens in our communities, and of working in partnership with HACOL to serve low income individuals and families. As HCPF's local provider for the Single Entry Point for long term care, we are excited to support the development of this much-needed option to provide a continuum of care to elderly residents of Larimer County. Given the projections of increased numbers of aged members in our county, it is critical that we expand the options available for seamless transition into and home from higher levels of care. This model provides the community "family" for many seniors who do not have relatives nearby to provide the support and social interactions that are so necessary for health aging.

In conclusion, Larimer County Human Services supports the sustained success of The Green House model in collaboration with HACOL and the Mirasol community.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to supporting the ongoing efforts of HACOL and Pinon Management to bring this vision to reality. We encourage you and HCPF to join us in supporting this cutting-edge project.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Smith

Options for Long Term Care Manager



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Office on Aging

2601 Midpoint Drive, Suite 112

Fort Collins, Colorado 80525

November 9, 2011

Sue Birch, Executive Director Health Care Policy and Financing 1570 Grant St. Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Birch,

I am writing this letter in support of the Green House Model planned by the Housing Authority of the City of Loveland, Colorado (HACOL), located at 1153 Finch Street, Loveland, Colorado, in the Mirasol Senior Living Community.

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The Larimer County Office on Aging is familiar with the plans for this model of care and wants to offer support for this effort by providing information to the public regarding the facility through the ARCH and Long Term Care Ombudsman programs. In addition, the Larimer County Ombudsman program provides advocacy and support for residents of long term care facilities and they will be closely involved with the staff of the facility as well as the future residents. The Office on Aging is in support of this project because it offers a model that is not currently available in the area and will prove to be a much needed addition to our long term care offerings. The facility will accept residents who receive Medicaid; at times there is a shortage of Medicaid beds in our county and this will help to mitigate this problem.

in conclusion, the Larimer County Office on Aging is fully committed to the sustained success of **The Green House model** in collaboration with **HACOL** and the **Mirasol** community.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to working with (or supporting the ongoing efforts of) HACOL and Pinon Management to bring this vision to reality.

Sincerely,

Ruth Long

Program Manager, Larime County Office on Aging



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

1501 Blue Spruce Drive

Fort Collins, CO 80524

(970) 498-6300

Fax (970) 498-6304

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR HACOL GREENHOUSE ROJECT

November 7, 2011

Sue Birch, Executive Director Health Care Policy and Financing 1570 Grant St. Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Birch,

I am writing to confirm our support of the Green House Model planned by the Housing Authority of the City of Loveland, Colorado (HACOL), located at 1153 Finch Street, Loveland, Colorado, in the Mirasol Senior Living Community.

HACOL and its Executive Director, Sam Betters, are committed to the success of this innovative model for housing and continuum of care for seniors in our community. HACOL operates the successful Mirasol Community, currently offering single family homes and apartments to adults 55 and older on a 25-acre beautiful campus in Loveland. They plan to further HACOL's vision to serve low and moderate income residents with the addition of a skilled nursing facility, and benefit the aging in a community setting.

The Green House Model envisioned by Dr. William Thomas, the founder of the Eden Alternative, combines a small home environment with the full range of personal and clinical services expected for individuals needing 24-hour nursing care in a high-quality community setting. The Green House Model provides a small house design, set up like a private home with 8-12 private bedrooms and private baths.

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In conclusion, Larimer County Human Services supports the sustained success of The Green House model in collaboration with HACOL and the Mirasol community.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to supporting the ongoing efforts of HACOL and Pinon Management to bring this vision to reality. We encourage you and HCPF to join us in supporting this cutting-edge project.

Sincerely,

Ginny Riley

Director

Law Office of Faith Betz

November 2, 2011

750 W. Eisenhower Blvd., Suite 106 Loveland, CO 80537 (970) 679-1613

Sue Birch, Executive Director Health Care Policy and Financing 1570 Grant St. Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Birch,

I am writing this letter in support of the Green House Model planned by the Housing Authority of the City of Loveland, Colorado (HACOL), located at 1153 Finch Street, Loveland, Colorado, in the Mirasol Senior Living Community. I am an elder law attorney in Loveland, and I believe the extra capacity and the model of care the Green House Model offers to Loveland are vital.

HACOL is committed to the success of this innovative model for nursing homes and plan to further HACOL's vision to provide low and moderate income residents with home and community, with the addition of a skilled nursing facility, and the benefit of aging in community. HACOL operates the successful Mirasol Community, currently offering single family homes and apartments to adults 55 and older on a 25-acre beautiful campus in Loveland. Mirasol is a model community, and its manager, Mark Betz (my spouse), a terrific asset to the community.

The Green House Model envisioned by Dr. William Thomas, the founder of the Eden Alternative, combines a small home environment with the full range of personal and clinical services expected for individuals needing 24-hour nursing care in a high-quality community setting. The Green House Model provides a small house design, designed like a private home with 8-12 private bedrooms and private baths.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Faith Betz

Sincerely,

Faith Betz

Colorado's Protection & Advocacy System

November 8, 2011

Sue Birch, Executive Director Health Care Policy and Financing 1570 Grant St. Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Birch,

Thank you for arranging for Jennie Chin Hansen to speak to your staff and long-term care stakeholders yesterday. Although I was unable to attend the presentation by Ms. Chin Hansen, I did call in and found her to be an exciting speaker with so much of the data we need to continue to reform and revitalize the way we provide long-term care services in Colorado. Person centered living is the key to future successful outcomes for and the satisfaction of our long-term care consumers. I recall when I met with you on August 8, as the chair of the Nursing Facility Culture Change Accountability Board, that you asked all of us in attendance whether we were familiar with the Green House model and told us of your trip to Tupelo, Mississippi to see the first Green House.

As the Colorado State Long-Term Care Ombudsman and a member of the Long-Term Care Advisory Committee at HCPF, I am writing this letter in support of the Green House Model planned by the Housing Authority of the City of Loveland, Colorado (HACOL), located at 1153 Finch Street, Loveland, Colorado, in the Mirasol Senior Living Community.

HACOL and its Executive Director, Sam Betters, are committed to the success of this innovative model for nursing homes and plan to further HACOL's vision to provide low and moderate income residents with home and community, with the addition of a skilled nursing facility, offering the benefit of aging in community. HACOL operates the successful Mirasol Community, currently offering single family homes and apartments to adults 55 and older on a beautiful 25-acre campus in Loveland.

The Green House Model envisioned by Dr. William Thomas, the founder of the Eden Alternative, combines a small home environment with the full range of personal and clinical services expected for individuals needing 24-hour nursing care in a high-quality community setting. As you know, the Green House Model provides a small house design, built like a private home with 8-12 private bedrooms and private baths.