



Press Information

For Immediate Release
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Promises Made – Promises Not Kept

Providence: Carolyn Medeiros, Executive Director of the Alliance for Safe Communities, today expressed her grave concern for the residents of the Silverlake Section of Rhode Island's Capitol City. Her problem stems from the increasing presence in the neighborhood of a non-profit known as OpenDoors. Last year the organization used substantial state and federal grants to purchase a vacant building in the neighborhood and to do renovations that permitted it to open as a service center for the formerly incarcerated.

While residents of Silverlake universally applaud the goal of serving an at-risk population, there have been concerns over the placement of the facility. The new OpenDoors facility abuts or is in proximity to a Day Care, an Elementary School, a Community Center, and the largest liquor store in the area. The possibility of anti-social reactions by clients re-entering society was never thoroughly discussed with OpenDoors' new neighbors before permits were issued and construction got underway last year.

In the late summer of 2010 a community meeting was finally held. At that time the senior staff of OpenDoors made certain promises to the community regarding the safety procedures that would be in place. "The reason for this announcement today," Medeiros said. "Is to highlight the fact that these promises have gone un-kept, well after the building has begun servicing the RI Prison population."

Note a four feet aesthetic gate surrounds the facility , two feet short of what was promised (6 feet) in height and explained as a contractor mistake to one neighbor.



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The Keypad entry to the rear gate is obviously not effective. Not only does the gate open without a swipe card on the key pad but the keypad itself is shown to have its wires hanging from a hollow box.



If surveillance is truly being implemented then from what angle shot of the building including its main entrance are security cameras visible?



It is understandable the 24 hour security guard on site is not there yet if residents have yet to move in and only staff and daily services are offered. Hopefully this obligation will be met in a timely fashion as inhabitants arrive.

Are Silverlake residents to assume a game of semantics is being played when OpenDoors Executive Director Sol Rodriguez states there will be no sex offenders residing at the Plainfield Street location, and yet a level 3 sex offender is alleged to be there daily? This employee of the non-profit was recently identified by a national organization, Survivor Network of those Abused by Priests, or SNAP.

“Open Doors has occupied its new facility for the last month and half. It is time to answer Silverlake’s safety concerns as we watch this one of a kind facility demonstrate its ability of being a good neighbor and a good investment to the tax payers of Rhode Island.” Carolyn Medeiros asserted as she concluded her prepared statement.

ASC-RI is a non-profit dedicated to assisting Communities to achieve the promise of a safe environment that is made to them by government.

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