

HUD Directors visit new Safe Haven housing facility



James Heard, St. Louis Field Office Director and Macie Houston, Region VII Director, with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development visited the Bootheel this week. On Thursday, the HUD Directors visited Family Counseling Center's newly opened Safe Haven facility.

Anthony Smith, FCC's Housing Director, reports that the Safe Haven opened

September 1, and provides outreach, housing and supportive services to homeless, disabled persons in Dunklin County. "We already have five residents living in the program. This facility will be a key component in addressing the growing problem of rural homelessness in Dunklin County", reports Smith.

"The Safe Haven project was a collaborative effort with Family Counseling Center, The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, The Missouri Community Block Grant Program, the Missouri Housing Trust Fund, and the Dunklin County Commission" reports FCC's Chief Financial Officer, Shawn Sando. "We are excited to have this new and innovative facility as part of our local continuum of care to serve the homeless, disabled in Dunklin County. This year in Dunklin County, FCC has served 40 homeless persons with outreach services and made 15 placements to permanent housing with supportive services", reports Sando.

Family Counseling Center's Safe Haven facility will have a public open house Monday October 29, 2007. For more information on available services, contact Family Counseling Center at (573) 888-5925 or online at www.fccinc.org.

Photograph: HUD Directors James Heard and Macie Houston with FCC staff and one resident of the newly opened SEMO Safe Haven in Kennett.