

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Gobi and Flanagan Secure Funding for Housing Program and Support Services for Women Veterans**

**BOSTON** – Senators **Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer)** and **Jennifer L. Flanagan (D-Leominster)** have announced that the Massachusetts Senate adopted their budget amendment to provide funds for Women’s Housing for Veterans at “Cathy’s House” in Winchendon. The amendment provides \$124,000 to the Montachusett Veterans Outreach Center (MVOC) who administers the housing program.

“As we reflected on sacrifices made by Veterans at Memorial Day ceremonies over the weekend, it is so important that we also support the Veterans who are still with us,” said Senator Gobi “Cathy’s House and MVOC provide critical services and I was glad to join with Senator Flanagan to make sure that Women Veteran’s are not forgotten.”

"I am grateful for my colleagues in the legislature who helped Senator Gobi and I pass this crucial amendment," said Senator Flanagan. "MVOC does invaluable work that needs to be supported, praised, and replicated."

Cathy’s House is a transitional/permanent-supportive housing option that offers a safe and healthy home environment for women veterans in need of support services. The home houses up to eight residents, who each have their own room and a shared common living area. The residents also share responsibilities around the house under the oversight of a staff case manager and resident house manager.

“We are very grateful for the continued work and advocacy that Senators Gobi and Flanagan do on behalf of MVOC and all veterans,” said William Edson, Executive Director of MVOC. “Their recent efforts to secure funding for the MVOC housing program at Cathy’s House was critical to the mission of providing continued support services to homeless women veterans. Without their dedicated partnership in securing this funding,

these services simply would not exist. We are all very fortunate to have such great representation in Senators Gobi and Flanagan at the State House.”

Residents are able to participate in all MVOC therapeutic activities and programs. It is within walking distance to the MVOC’s Stallings Campus Outreach Center, local stores, banks, a library, and a YMCA.

Funding for this program was also included in the House of Representative’s final budget at the same amount so it will be included in the final budget delivered to the Governor for signature.

If you have any questions please contact Senator Gobi’s office at 617-722-1540.

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