Fox Valley

Mental Health Foundation

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Press Release

Contact: Tom Anderson, Chair. FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SENATORS LAUZEN AND NOLAND PROVIDE HOMES FOR THOSE IN NEED

ELGIN, IL, APRIL 12, 2012: At a time when the State of Illinois is reducing funding for services for people with mental illness, two of our local senators have made significant contributions that will help local people with mental illness for years to come.

During the past year Senator Chris Lauzen and Senator Michael Noland have each obtained a \$500,000 Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity grant for the Fox Valley Mental Health Foundation. The two grants are for the purchase of two apartment buildings for people with severe mental illness who are working actively on their recovery. Persons with disabling mental illness have very limited means. As a result they are frequently unable to obtain safe and affordable housing. These apartments will offer affordable rental rates to those adults who are engaged in treatment at the local community health

SENATORS LAUZEN AND NOLAND PROVIDE HOMES FOR THOSE IN NEED Page 2 facility—the Ecker Center. Senators Lauzen and Noland have made it possible for these people with mental illness, actively engaged in treatment, to have safe and affordable housing.

Studies have shown that people with mental illness who have secure housing have fewer psychiatric crises than others with the same illness.

The Board of the Fox Valley Mental Health Foundation and the current and future residents of the apartments that Senators

Noland and Lauzen have made possible are most grateful for this gift of a home.