

PRESS RELEASE

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St. Luke's LifeWorks, Inc. Changes Name to Inspirica, Inc.

STAMFORD, CT (March, 2012) – St. Luke's LifeWorks, a Stamford institution and the largest provider of services to the homeless in lower Fairfield County, today announced that it has changed its name to *INSPIRICA*.

The decision to change the name was made after conducting extensive research, including a survey of 2,000 clients, staff, volunteers, donors, etc. Among factors that led to the decision was the fact that the St. Luke's LifeWorks name was often confused with the church, school, or hospital that share the St. Luke's name. For more than a quarter century, St. Luke's LifeWorks has been an independent, non-sectarian organization. The name *Inspirica* not only differentiates the organization from these entities and other not-for-profit organizations serving the homeless, but also conveys hope, inspiration, and forward movement for the people we serve.

For more than 130 years, St. Luke's LifeWorks has provided a critical safety net for people in need, moving tens of thousands of men, women, and children from the streets to health, jobs, homes – and dignity. What began in 1879 as an outreach program to factory workers in Stamford's South End and laborers on the railroad has today grown into a multi-faceted organization that provides comprehensive, integrated services to single women, families, people living with HIV/AIDS, and people living with mental illness. *Inspirica's* housing facilities include emergency shelters, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, and affordable housing. Its support services include counseling, education & employment services, children's services, and access to mental health care, medical care, dental care, and a vast array other services through a network of strategic partnerships. It serves 220-240 people each night and more than 600 people each year. *Inspirica's* mission is clear: ***"To break the cycle of homelessness by helping people achieve – and maintain – permanent housing and stability in their lives."***

"Inspirica points towards the brighter future that awaits our participants, not their current status," says Jason Shaplen, *Inspirica's* CEO. "For more than a century, St. Luke's LifeWorks has been an innovative leader that has constantly evolved to meet the needs and demands of our community. Today's name change is in keeping with this evolution and spirit of innovation. It sets the stage for the next century. While our name has changed, however, our mission has not. We remain committed to helping the neediest people in our communities return to productive, stable lives."

"The city of Stamford is fortunate to have such a dedicated and caring organization like *Inspirica*," says Stamford Mayor Michael A. Pavia. "We are all impacted in one way or another by homelessness. *Inspirica* provides an invaluable service - not just to the people it serves directly, but to everyone who lives in our community. *Inspirica*, as reflected by its inspiring and innovative new name, continues its leadership through life-changing programs and services."

About Inspirica

Inspirica is one of the largest providers of services to the homeless in the state of Connecticut and the largest in lower Fairfield County. It provides emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing to 220-240 people each night. Additionally, it provides education & employment services, youth services, and access to a vast array of other services such medical and dental care, in-patient substance abuse treatment, psychiatric care, etc. through a network of formal strategic partnerships. <http://InspiricaCT.org/>