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Mental Illness Recovery Center, Inc. Receives \$250,000 from United Way of the Midlands to Support Financial Stability

Columbia, S.C. – **The Mental Illness Recovery Center, Inc. (MIRCI)** has received a \$250,000 grant from United Way of the Midlands to support financial stability and reduce homelessness in the Midlands.

Specifically, the grant will be used for Homeless Outreach, Supportive Housing, Behavioral Healthcare and Benefits Assistant programs throughout 2014-2015.

“Through the support of United Way of the Midlands MIRCI will be able to assist more homeless individuals to receive behavioral healthcare, supportive house, access to benefits like food stamps, and increasing their income. The partnership between MIRCI and United Way of the Midlands is truly a benefit to everyone in the Midlands and we look forward to working closely with United Way throughout the grant period to assist folks in meeting their basic needs,” said MIRCI President and Executive Director Julie Ann Avin.

This is the third year that United Way of the Midlands has supported this program, and last year alone, MIRCI provided housing to 267 adults and 24 children with mental illness. Benefits assistance and help with increasing income were provided to an additional 236 individuals, along with homeless outreach assistance to 208 individuals.

United Way of the Midlands (UWM) has awarded a total of \$1,320,000 in grant funding to support financial stability services. The awards will support a range of strategies including homelessness prevention programs, street outreach, and the creation of affordable housing. The financial stability awards are part of a \$4,000,000 total investment that also addresses health care and education programs.

“Only by bringing together the organizations with resources, expertise and passion for solving homelessness will we accomplish our goals,” said Mac Bennett, President and CEO of United Way of the Midlands. “We are fortunate to have strong partners, like Mental Illness Recover Center, Inc. to address these challenges in our community.”

For more information on this or other United Way of the Midlands grants or grantees, contact Anita Floyd, Vice President of Community Impact at United Way of the Midlands, at 803.733.5407 or afloyd@uway.org.

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MIRCI – the Mental Illness Recovery Center, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that assists individuals with mental illness to recover in the areas of their lives impacted by their illness through housing, behavioral healthcare, and assistance with obtaining and managing their disability income.

About United Way of the Midlands

United Way of the Midlands is the most organized efficient and accountable system for investing in the community. With more than 80 certified partner agencies, United Way works to identify and respond to the critical human service needs of Calhoun, Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry, Orangeburg and Richland counties. Funds are raised through workplace campaigns, grant writing and individual donations. For more information, please visit www.uway.org.