



Contact: Sue Polidura
Program Coordinator
ph: 603/ 766-3131
sue@seacoastwhc.org

For Immediate Release

HOUSING ADVOCACY GROUP HIRES PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Portsmouth, NH, June 15, 2006 - The Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast is pleased to welcome Malcolm Odell as its new Program Director. Malcolm has over 25 years experience in community and organizational development in housing, the environment, applied research, team building, strategic planning, training, and management. He has special expertise in the design, implementation, and testing of innovative community empowerment and mobilization strategies using "Appreciative Planning and Action," which is being applied successfully by international institutions and groups around the world.

Malcolm is a life-long resident of New England and currently lives in South Hampton, New Hampshire. He has served as a Board Member of the Merrimack River Watershed Council, and Executive Director of Common Ground/Center for Policy Negotiation.

The Coalition is eager to utilize Malcolm's expertise and skills to further the outreach of the program. Malcolm will initiate his new role as program director by facilitating the seminar **GROWING TOGETHER: GROWING SMART**, an appreciative planning and action forum to be held at Northeast Credit Union in Portsmouth and scheduled for June 23rd.

The Coalition extends its gratitude to Bryan Wyatt, executive director of the Housing Partnership for his leadership of the group over the past months. Bryan will now be able to focus his efforts on the primary goal of the Housing Partnership, development of affordable housing for low and moderate-income residents in the seacoast region.

The mission of the Workforce Housing Coalition is to be a catalyst for the development of a range of housing options for the diverse workforce in the Greater Seacoast region of New Hampshire and Maine. The Coalition is the education and advocacy program of The Housing Partnership, a 501c(3) non-profit organization. For more information, phone 603/766-3131, email info@seacoastwhc.org, or visit WWW.SEACOASTWHC.ORG or WWW.HOUSINGPARTNERSHIP.ORG.

###