

For Immediate Release

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Pioneer Network Announces
Creating Home: Small House Webinar Series
Sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



(ROCHESTER, N.Y.--) Small groups of people living together, directing their daily lives with support, is not a new concept. It has been successful in a wide range of applications including group homes for adults with disabilities, adult family homes and congregate settings, and mental health initiatives. From older adults and their families to aging experts to policy makers, there is a growing interest in applying the small house concept to the field of aging, and the care of older adults.

With the support of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Pioneer Network's *Creating Home: Small House Webinar* series will explore topics around the development, implementation and sustainability of both attached and detached smaller environments and small houses for older adults. The webinars are open to all stakeholders in the field of aging as well as those in other related health and social service areas who embrace small houses and smaller environments as ways to create home – or anyone who has questions about, or wants to learn more about small houses. All participants will be invited and encouraged to continue the dialogue on Pioneer Network's new Small House online forum, *House to Home: Pioneering Conversations on Small Houses*, to be introduced following the conclusion of the series.

The webinar series will be facilitated by Nora Gibson, Executive Director, ElderHealth Northwest. Each session will feature lead guides with in-depth experience with issues related to attached and detached small houses. The one-hour sessions are scheduled for March 5, 12 and 19 at 1:00 PM EST. The price for the full series is \$110 per computer, or two sessions for \$90 or one for \$59. Space is limited, but the sessions are open to any number of participants who are in one location, and could be projected as a dynamic and interactive seminar series – making this a very affordable and high quality educational opportunity for groups of any size.

Registration is available online only, at www.PioneerNetwork.net.

Session 1 March 5, 2009 1:00 PM EST
Creating Home: The Essential Elements of Small Houses

Lead Guides: Robert Jenkins, Director, THE GREEN HOUSE® Project, and LaVrene Norton, Executive Leader, Action Pact, Inc.

- What is a small house?
- The essential elements of the operational and organizational aspects of small houses.
- The essential elements of the physical environment of small houses.
- The essential elements related to individual residents of small houses and the small house community.

Session 2 March 12, 2009 1:00 PM EST
Creating Home: Lessons Learned from Small House Models

Lead Guides: Ruta Kadonoff, Deputy Director, THE GREEN HOUSE ® , and Megan Hannan, Senior Consultant/Trainer, Action Pact, Inc.

- An overview of the small house models that exist today for elders as well as other populations.
- The differences between the household, GREEN HOUSE® and other small houses.
- The financial aspects of building and operating the various styles of small houses .
- The unintended consequences of each model and how they can be mitigated.
- The current evidence base for small houses and additional research needed.
- Small house living and its affects on the residents, families, and staff.

Session 3 March 19, 2009 1:00 PM EST
Creating Home: Policy, Regulatory and Reimbursement Issues

Lead Guides from the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services:
Karen Schoeneman, Deputy Director, Division of Nursing Homes,
Sheila Lambowitz, Director, Division of Institutional Post Acute Care, and
Jim Merrill, Life Safety Specialist

Licensure issues for small houses.

- Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement issues for small houses.
- Life Safety Code issues for small houses.
- Public policies affecting the financial aspects of building and operating small houses, including, but not limited to, Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement issues.
- State efforts to rebalance long-term care and its impact on the small house movement.

ABOUT PIONEER NETWORK Pioneer Network was formed in 1997 by a small group of prominent professionals in long-term care to advocate for person-directed care. This group called for a radical change in the culture of aging so that when our grandparents, parents — and ultimately ourselves — go to a nursing home or other community-based setting it is to thrive, not to decline. This movement, away from institutional provider-driven models to

more humane consumer-driven models that embrace flexibility and self-determination, has come to be known as the long-term care culture change movement. Our partners and audience are primarily engaged in some aspect of long-term care including CEOs and administrators, consumers and family caregivers, doctors and nurses, direct care providers, government officials, regulators and policy makers, and others who care about, and care for, the aging.

ABOUT THE ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation focuses on the pressing health and health care issues facing our country. As the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and health care of all Americans, the Foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful and timely change. For more than 35 years the Foundation has brought experience, commitment, and a rigorous, balanced approach to the problems that affect the health and health care of those it serves. When it comes to helping Americans lead healthier lives and get the care they need, the Foundation expects to make a difference in your lifetime. For more information, visit www.rwjf.org.

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