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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Community Residences Selected to Serve as Member of Business Development Learning Collaborative**

*Community-based organizations work together to develop plans to increase capacity and assure financial viability for organizations supporting individuals with disabilities.*

**Chantilly, Va. – April 27, 2018** – In April, [Community Residences, Inc.](http://www.communityresidences.org) (CR) applied for and was accepted to participate as a new member of the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Business Acumen Business Development Learning Collaborative (Collaborative) for the Commonwealth of Virginia. CR will serve on Virginia’s state team comprised of community-based organizations supporting persons with disabilities, Virginia state agencies such as DMAS and DBHDS, and other related partner organizations to evaluate the business environment and develop business strategies to strengthen and sustain community-based organizations that serve people with disabilities. The effort is led by the National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD) in partnership with national disability and advocacy organizations and is funded through a grant provided by the Administration for Community Living (ACL).

The objective of the Collaborative is to foster increased integration and coordination of health care and long-term services and supports, and continually improving the care and health of those supported. There is also a focus on maximizing revenue and providing support in advancing and sustaining the missions of community-based service organizations supporting those with disabilities.

Arthur Ginsberg, CR’s President and CEO said “CR has recently completed the development of a strategic framework. The opportunity to participate as a member of the Collaborative will assist CR in addressing some of the challenges revealed through our strategic planning efforts and in developing stronger partnerships within our community. We look forward to taking a deeper dive into addressing the unique issues faced by our business as we work toward improved solutions for individuals with disabilities. We are honored to have been selected to participate in this capacity as we strive to make a positive impact on the lives of others each day.”

Since its inception over 40 years ago, CR has embraced the philosophies of community integration and personalized supports that promote independence, choice, and well-being, providing for those with mental health needs, developmental disabilities, and at-risk youth.

**Community Residences, Inc. (CR)** offers individuals with disabilities supportive housing and the physical, mental and emotional supports needed to facilitate independent and dignified living within the community. CR accomplishes this mission by providing a full spectrum of supports, both in CR’s homes and apartments and through community programming. Last year alone, CR supported over 1,000 at-risk youth, women and men with mental health needs and/or developmental disabilities, and those who are or might become homeless. Incorporated in Arlington as a 501(c)(3) organization in 1975, today CR provides supports in communities throughout Northern Virginia, Greater Richmond, and in Anne Arundel County, Montgomery County, and Baltimore, Maryland. To learn more, please visit [www.communityresidences.org](http://www.communityresidences.org).

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**Media contact:** Kelsey DeWispelaere, [kdewispelaere@comres.org](mailto:kdewispelaere@comres.org) or 703.842.2351.