



## Media Advisory

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**Mercy Housing and Shelter will March in Hartford to Commemorate 166 Years of Service and Launch New Campaign on Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup>**

Hartford, CT (May 9, 2018) [Mercy Housing and Shelter Corp](#) will march and launch a new campaign in honor of the 166 year anniversary of the [Sisters of Mercy](#) arriving in the [City of Hartford](#) and State of Connecticut. The march will kick-off from St. Elizabeth House & Friendship Center at 118 Main St, Hartford on Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am and proceed to the [Connecticut Old State House](#) for a program and launch of Mercy/365.

**WHAT:** MERCY COMMEMORATIVE MARCH & MERCY/365 LAUNCH

**WHEN:** Friday, May 11th 2018 – 10:00am

**WHERE:** St Elizabeth House & Friendship Center, 118 Main Street, Hartford, CT and march to Connecticut Old State House, 800 Main Street, Hartford, CT.

**WHO:**

- **Mayor Luke Bronin, Mayor City of Hartford**
- **Judy Gough, Executive Director of Mercy Housing and Shelter Corp.**
- **Patricia McKeon, RSM Sisters of Mercy**

The **Mercy Commemorative March and Mercy/365 launch** is in honor of the Sisters of Mercy arrival 166 years ago and their dedication to giving hope, transforming lives and working to end homelessness in Hartford as well as all of Connecticut. On May 11, 1852 the Sisters of Mercy arrived in Hartford. There was a great need for education. Within a week of their arrival the Sisters established a school in the basement of Saint Patrick Church. That same year the Sisters went to New Haven. Immediately, they were aware of children in need and established Saint Francis Orphanage.

**Mercy/365** is a volunteer and community engagement campaign focused on uniting Mercy Housing and Shelter's clients, volunteers, corporate partners and collaborative organizations through community projects, events and social media.

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About [Mercy Housing and Shelter](#)

This past year, Mercy served 4,835 people who were homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. The agency's residential program housed and assisted 46 residents and provided 105,229 meals. Supportive Housing Services served 141 households (145 adults and 19 children) in scattered site housing units. Mercy programs assisted 216 people to obtain permanent housing. The Friendship Center served 49,779 meals to 4,314 individual clients; filled 118 food pantry requests; and met 2,010 requests for services such as case management, medical care with the on-site nurse, showers, toiletries, and more.

