

PRESS RELEASE

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CATANIA UNVEILS CONSUMER WELLNESS CENTER

WELLNESS AND RESOURCE CENTER OPENS FOR DISTRICT'S MENTAL HEALTH CONSUMERS

Washington, DC – Today, Councilmember David Catania (At-Large) joined members of the mental health community to unveil the Ida Mae Campbell Wellness and Resource Center located in Ward 5. The consumer wellness center is a District of Columbia based advocate for consumers with mental, developmental, and intellectual disabilities.

“Today is a great day for our mental health community,” said Catania. “This center will provide a safe and supportive place for our mental health consumers.”

The Committee on Health chaired by Catania appropriated funds in the Fiscal Year 2008 and 2009 budgets to establish a consumer wellness center. The Ida Mae Campbell Foundation was subsequently awarded a contract to open and operate it. The center is a drop-in facility where individuals can gather information on community resources, enhance their work and social skills, and attend wellness and recovery workshops among other things. It is open to all individuals who want to participate in activities regardless of their involvement in psychiatric treatment or case management.

The Ida Mae Campbell Foundation will work in partnership with Pathways to Housing D.C., a non-profit organization that provides access to housing for individuals with mental illness or substance abuse problems. Beverley McCollum will serve as the Executive Director of the center. She has been involved with D.C's Peer Recovery Movement since 2003.

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