



For Immediate Release

CONARD HOUSE TEAMS WITH WHOLE FOODS MARKET AND PAUL MAHDER GALLERY FOR AN EVENING OF COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Local Organizations Unite in Highlighting Community Supported Self Management to help People Living with Chronic Mental Illness

San Francisco, Calif. –September 24, 2008– [Conard House](#), a nonprofit organization helping people self-manage chronic mental illness, wishes to publicly thank the community, and in particular [Whole Foods Market](#) and the [Paul Mahder Gallery](#), for a highly successful evening last week. More than 100 supporters and friends gathered to enjoy wine, art and hors d'oeuvres while raising awareness for the work accomplished by Conard House. The evening was hosted by Conard House board member, Mylea Charvat, and her husband Mark Walther.

The reception was held at the gallery of acclaimed photographic artist, Paul Mahder, and was supported by Whole Foods Market in Potrero Hill. The Paul Mahder Gallery exhibits a wide range of extraordinary art by career painters, sculptors, photographers and other artists from around the world. Paul Mahder has worked as a fine art photographer for over twelve years and has been featured internationally in museums, galleries and churches. The evening included a visit from featured artist David L. Baughan. For more information about the artist, please see: <http://www.paulmahdergallery.com>

For nearly 50 years, Conard House has been leading the way in the development and delivery of community-based resources to help people self-manage mental illness. By providing individualized treatment planning and reliable access to a variety of self-management resources, Conard House empowers clients to navigate public systems of care, giving them both hope and the ability to take responsibility for a life defined more by aspirations than by illness.

Today, Conard House provides an array of diverse services in a dozen San Francisco locations. Each service is designed to help clients reduce their symptoms, find healthy pathways to recovery and promote long-term independent living.

“Conard House is continually developing new ways to support those suffering from mental illness,” said Mylea Charvat. “The Conard House team has a solid and unique understanding of what it means to serve one of the most invisible populations in this city. The expressions of support from our local community at an evening like this are extremely gratifying.”

About Conard House

Conard House, Inc. is a private, nonprofit organization, providing mental health services to residents of San Francisco. Founded upon core principles of self-empowerment, self-determination and the least restrictive, community-based living, Conard House opened its doors in 1960 as the first “halfway house” for adults no longer requiring hospitalization. Today it serves more than 1,900 people in a dozen locations. Support for its programs and services come from various city agencies, service fees from organizations, rents from residents, grants from foundations and gifts from donors. For more information about Conard House and its programs, please visit www.conard.org

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