

Erie County General Authority

A municipal agency with authority to acquire, lease, finance or improve property in pursuit of community and economic development opportunities as well as to finance 501(c)3 non-profit agencies.

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NEWS RELEASE

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Erie County General Authority Approves Financing for SafeNet Expansion Project

The Erie County General Authority Board approved today \$350,000 in tax exempt financing for the 2,800 square foot expansion of SafeNet's Hospitality House. The Hospitality House expansion doubles the client living area and also provides for a handicapped accessible suite in the facility.

Established as a Hospitality House shelter over 30 years ago, SafeNet is a not for profit organization of dedicated professionals and community volunteers working together to end domestic violence in Erie County. Through a wide range of residential and non-residential programs including shelters, counseling, legal advocacy and education, SafeNet develops the supports needed to break the cycle of abuse and help victims regain a sense of their own dignity.

"The new addition will double the amount of living space available to women and children in emergency shelter and create a fully accessible family room to accommodate clients with physical disabilities. We are grateful for the help of the Erie County General Authority in making our project more cost effective," noted SafeNet Executive Director, Linda King. SafeNet officials anticipate the project will provide adequate room to assist an additional 95 clients.

Larry Bossolt, Director of the Authority stated that "this is actually the third project the Authority has approved for SafeNet, including the original acquisition and renovation of SafeNet's 17th and French St. building and a subsequent refinancing." Mr. Bossolt added that "we are pleased to approve the new project to provide SafeNet with savings that can be used to expand their services."

The Erie County General Authority, a financing instrumentality of Erie County Government, is an affiliated agency of the Economic Development Corporation of Erie County. The Authority is designed to finance acquisition costs and other improvements for 501(c)3 organizations.

Final approval of the SafeNet project is conditioned upon a vote by Erie County Council at the February 6th Council meeting.