

**For Immediate Release:**

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**"A SIGH OF RELIEF: HOME SWEET HOME"**

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Ann Arbor, MI- Ozone House, a non-profit agency that provides housing and support services, announces that their Ypsilanti Youth Drop-In Center will be opening in July, 2006.

Ozone House purchased the new center, located at 102 N. Hamilton in Ypsilanti, from Washtenaw County in November 2005 to replace the leased site they have occupied since 1999. Since that time construction of the home has been ongoing. Funding and renovations for the new home were made possible by part of the \$1,000,000 Capital Campaign currently underway at Ozone House.

"We are so grateful for the outpouring of support from the community," says Director Mary Jo Callan. "Because of the generosity of our neighbors, we now have a permanent home in Ypsilanti to continue providing a safe, educational, and fun place for youth to spend time after school and during the summer."

The Youth Drop-In Center is open Monday through Thursday from 4-8 PM and on Friday from 4-6 PM. While at the Drop-In, youth may receive crisis intervention, counseling, meals, use the recording equipment and computers, or participate in activities such as Lyricist Lounge, Ballin' in the Willow, or support and social groups.

Ozone House has two public Open Houses planned to showcase its new home and the services & programs housed there:

- On July 10<sup>th</sup> from 4-8 PM there will be a **Youth Open House** with food, games, music, and tours by Drop-In Center youth workers and staff. Youth from any town ages 13-20 are encouraged to drop by and help us get our new Center off to a great start!
- Tuesday July 25<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 PM there is **Community-wide Open House and Taste of Ypsilanti**. All are invited to tour our new Drop-In Center. We

are thrilled to bring you an evening filled with great food from area restaurants and cafés, Spoken Word by Ozone House youth, and more!

Head of the Drop-In Center and Youth Development Director Colleen O'Brien says she is looking forward to a new beginning and is so thankful of all of the excitement being generated. "It's finally time to move in and we can't wait to welcome youth to our new Drop-in Center and focus on what we do best: working with youth, being a resource, and continuing to encourage young people in their roles as positive community leaders."

For more information on the Youth Drop-In Center, Ozone House, or our Capital Campaign, please visit [www.ozonehouse.org](http://www.ozonehouse.org). Together, we can continue to make a safe place for youth.