



## Press Release

**CONTACT: Kristin Valentine**  
**202.386.7613**  
[kvalentine@breadforthecity.org](mailto:kvalentine@breadforthecity.org)

**January 28, 2009:** Executive Director George Jones announced today receipt of a \$1.35 million grant from the DC Primary Care Association (DCPCA) in support of Bread for the City's capital campaign to expand its Northwest Center in Shaw.

This award, along with an earlier grant of \$ 2.975 million, is part of the Medical Homes DC initiative designed to increase access to consistent, affordable medical care for underserved DC residents. Bread for the City's medical clinic provides primary care for over 2,700 residents, and the clinic expansion will triple capacity for patient visits.

Bread for the City Executive Director George Jones praised the grant, noting that "our clinic schedules 15 new patient appointments every week, but these slots are taken each morning within minutes of opening our phone lines. We turn away many people for lack of space, and they're likely to go without care or turn to a hospital emergency room—both costly and dangerous alternatives."

"This funding from the DCPCA is a critical step forward in our capital campaign to double the size of the Northwest Center," continued Jones. In addition to the clinic, the expansion will benefit other aspect of Bread for the City's services. In the Northwest Center's current capacity, Jones notes, "our attorneys have to hold client conferences in a medical exam room. Our social workers must have confidential conversations just off a hallway with limited privacy. Our medical staff doesn't have enough exam rooms, or space to consult, and the waiting areas are awkward at best."

With contributions from local government and private individuals, the total pledged amount to date is well over half of the \$8.25 million needed (including construction, furnishing and equipment, and operating expenses). The balance of funding will be attained through individual, corporate and foundation grants.

The new space will feature twice as many exam rooms, a bigger and better lab, family-friendly waiting space, and will be significantly more accessible for patients with limited mobility. Bread for the City plans to break ground on the project March 25, 2009, with completion expected in the spring of 2010.

Bread for the City is a nonprofit agency that serves over 60,000 people annually through the legal clinic, food pantry, clothing room, social services programs, and the medical clinic. To get more information or to make a contribution to the campaign, call Kristin Valentine, Development Director, at 202.386.7613.