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## **Advocates Announces Mental Health Awareness Month Events** *Art exhibit on display at Framingham Public Library*

**Framingham, Massachusetts, April 29, 2010...**Advocates, Inc., a leading Massachusetts human services provider, invites the public to several activities in May honoring Mental Health Awareness Month.

Highlights of the month include Advocates' 11<sup>th</sup> annual art exhibit, a workshop on older adult mental health, an informational forum on psychiatric emergencies and a live musical performance.

"Mental Health Awareness Month is a great opportunity for Advocates not only to share educational resources with community members but also to highlight the talents and contributions of people in mental health recovery," said Bill Taylor, president and CEO of Advocates, Inc.

Please join us at the following events:

### **Older Adult Mental Health & Well Being: What You & Your Caregiver Need to Know**

May 3, 2010, 6-7:30 p.m., Framingham Public Library, Costin Room

Join professionals from Advocates, Inc. and BayPath Elder Services for an informative forum on identifying and treating mental health problems in older adults.

### **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Exhibit & Reception**

May 11, 2010, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Framingham Public Library, Costin Room

A multi-media exhibit featuring original works by local artists from the Advocates community, including watercolors, sketches, oils, textiles, poetry and more. The exhibit will be on display for public viewing from May 4 - 27.

### **Live Music Jam**

May 18, 2010, 6-8:30 p.m., Framingham Public Library, Costin Room

Come enjoy live music featuring Advocates' own Music Jam Band, meet band members and even join in the jam.

### **Open Mic Night & Coffeehouse**

May 25, 2010, 6-8:30 p.m., Framingham Public Library, Costin Room

Everyone's invited to share music, poetry and other creative talents. Come to participate or just relax and enjoy the performers.

### **Forum on Psychiatric Emergencies**

May 27, 2010, 6:30-8:30 p.m., MetroWest Medical Center, Perini Auditorium

Co-hosted with NAMI Greater Framingham and MetroWest Medical Center

Unfortunately, many people don't know that help is available for individuals experiencing their own or a loved one's psychiatric emergency. Staff from Advocates' psychiatric emergency services will discuss resources available to all MetroWest area residents, including 24-hour mobile crisis intervention.

### **About Advocates, Inc.**

Advocates, Inc., headquartered in Framingham, is among the 20 largest human service organizations in Massachusetts. With over 1,000 employees and 12,000 individuals served each year, Advocates is a leading provider of residential support services; outpatient mental health and substance abuse services; day habilitation services; employment supports; housing, benefits and legal services; community justice programs; and family support services. Advocates' programs are located throughout Eastern and Central Massachusetts. To learn more, visit [www.AdvocatesInc.org](http://www.AdvocatesInc.org)

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