## Florida Department of State

Division of Corporations Public Access System

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### ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

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OF

Next Step of Bay County, Inc.
A Florida Corporation Non Profit



Pursuant to the provisions of section 617.1006, Florida Statutes, the undersigned Florida nonprofit corporation adopts the following articles of incorporation.

#### ARTICLE I

The name of the corporation shall be Next Step of Bay County, Inc. (the "Corporation"). Said corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, educational and religious purposes including for such purposes the making of distributions to organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (or the corresponding section of any future Federal tax code).

### ARTICLE II

The street address of the initial principal office of the Corporation shall be 704 West 17th St., Lynn Haven, Florida 32444

#### ARTICLE III

This corporation was specifically created to provide housing as well as to educate, mentor, minister and offer worship opportunities for those transitioning from incarceration back to mainstream society.

The Corporation shall also be authorized to engage in and transact any and all lawful business within and without the State of Florida or United States for which corporations not for profit may be incorporated under Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, as amended and supplemented. No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to its members, trustees, directors, officers or other private persons except that corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments distributions in furtherance of section 501(c)(3) purposes. substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, this corporation shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage

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in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the purposes of this Corporation.

#### ARTICLE IV

The initial directors and officers shall be as hereinafter designated:

Director, President John R. Ramsey 704 West 17th St. Lynn Haven, Florida 32444

Director, Vice-President Johnnie Ray Morris 11407 hwy 2301 Youngstown, Florida 32466

Director, Secretary, Treasurer Sheila Covington 6205 S. Lagoon Dr. Panama City Beach, Florida 32408

The method of election of directors is as stated in the bylaws.

### ARTICLE V

The Corporation shall have all of the powers conferred upon corporations organized pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, as amended and supplemented.

Notwithstanding any provision contained in these articles, the corporation is required to distribute its income for each taxable year at the times and in the manner as not to subject the corporation to tax under section 4942 of the Internal Revenue Code. In addition, the Corporation shall not, during any period and to the extent it is a private foundation described in section 509 of the Internal Revenue Code, (a) engage in any act of self-dealing; (b) retain any excess business holdings; (c) make any investments in a manner as to subject the corporation to tax under section 4944 of the Internal Revenue Code; or (d) make any taxable expenditure as defined in section 4945(d) of the Internal Revenue Code.

#### ARTICLE VI

The corporation shall be perpetual. Upon the dissolution of this non-profit corporation assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code or corresponding section of any future Federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the Federal government or to a state or local government for a public purpose. Any such assets not so

disposed of shall be disposed of by a court of competent jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organizations as the court shall determine.

#### ARTICLE VII

The street address of the initial registered office of the Corporation is 704 West 17th St., Lynn Haven, Florida 32444 and the initial registered agent of the Corporation at that address is John R. Ramsey

#### ARTICLE VIII

The name and address of the incorporator for the Corporation is: John R. Ramsey, 704 West 17th St., Lynn Haven, Florida 32444.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned incorporator has executed these Articles of Incorporation this 23rd day of September, 2008.

John R. Ramsoy, Incorporates

# CERTIFICATE OF DESIGNATION OF REGISTERED AGENT AND REGISTERED OFFICE

PURSUANT TO FLORIDA STATUTES, THE UNDERSIGNED CORPORATION, ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, SUBMITS THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT IN DESIGNATING THE REGISTERED OFFICE/REGISTERED AGENT, IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

- The name of the Corporation is: Next Step of Bay County, Inc.
- The name and address of the registered agent is:
   John R. Ramsey
   704 West 17th St.
   Lynn Haven, Florida 32444

HAVING BEEN NAMED AS REGISTERED AGENT AND TO ACCEPT SERVICE OF PROCESS FOR THE ABOVE STATED CORPORATION AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED IN THIS CERTIFICATE, I HEREBY ACCEPT THE APPOINTMENT AS REGISTERED AGENT AND AGREE TO ACT IN THIS CAPACITY. I FURTHER AGREE TO COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ALL STATUTES RELATING TO THE PROPER AND COMPLETE PERFORMANCE OF MY DUTIES, AND I AM FAMILIAR WITH AND ACCEPT THE OBLIGATIONS OF MY POSITION AS REGISTERED AGENT.

John R. Ramsey, Registered Agent

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