

What is supportive housing?

Supportive housing is a simple commonsense solution to homelessness among vulnerable people: independent, affordable housing linked to easily-accessible support services aimed at helping at-risk tenants achieve their life goals. Tenants pay no more than a third of their income in rent and have easy access to whatever assistance they need to achieve independence -- everything from learning how to cook to finding and pursuing a meaningful career. Supportive housing for some 200 youth aging out of foster care was created starting in 2007.

There are two types of supportive housing, "scattered-site" -- rented apartments in the community visited regularly by support staff - and single site -- apartments in a building developed and run by a nonprofit in which services are offered by on-site staff. Eligible tenants are between 18-25 years old who are leaving or having recently left foster care who had been in foster care for more than a year after their 16th birthday and who are at risk of homelessness. To apply, a social service provider must fill out a 2010E application. For more information, contact Paul Williams at Administration for Childrens Services (212) 676-6779 or at paul.williams@dfa.state.ny.us.

For more information about supportive housing visit www.shnny.org



Scattered-site supportive housing

Four organizations run "scattered-site" programs for youth aging out of foster care. Tenants have studio apartments or share two bedroom apartments in the community and get individualized support, educational and vocational services delivered by teams of professionals.



Jewish Board of Family & Children's Services provides apartments and services to 26 young people transitioning from foster care in the Bronx.

Vanessa A. Edwards
vedwards@jbfcfs.org
718-931-4045 x 208



SCO Family Services provides apartments and services to 36 young adults in Queens.

Mary Noto-Gilroy
MNoto@sco.org
718-739-1681 ext. 12



New York Foundling provides supportive housing to 25 youth aging out of foster care.

Penny Krakoff
PennyK@nyfoundling.org
347-689-1576



St. Vincent Services provides supportive housing to 26 young adults aging out of foster care in Brooklyn.

Warren Raboy
warren@svs.org
718-522-3700 x 3245



Supportive Housing for Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care



Louis Nine, the Bronx, Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter, 46 apartments for a mix of at-risk youth

Jeffrey Grundbert
jgrunberg@ncsinc.org
917-477-2470



"I don't know of anywhere else where I could have found as much help."

"My two years at the Foyer have been a blessing and have shown me a lot about becoming a better person, better father, and better role model."



The Lee, Lower East Side Manhattan -- 262 units, 55 for youth. Owned by Common Ground Community, services by The Door.

Stacey Saunders
ssaunders@door.org
646-600-7413



The Chelsea Foyer, Manhattan, 40 units, all at-risk youth. Owned by Common Ground Community, services by Good Shepherd Services.

Adrian Rodriguez
Adrian_Rodriguez@goodshepherds.org
646-485-3943



Lantern Organization has three residences for youth: Vicinitas Hall, the Bronx -- 68 apartments for a mix of at-risk and low-income youth (kitchen pictured on front); Shafer Hall, East Harlem -- 91 apartments, 25 for youth; Jasper Hall, the Bronx -- 53 apartments, 22 for youth

Mary Adams
madams@lanterngroup.org
212-398-3073 x 219

Questions about supportive housing for young adults

Is it like a group home?

No: supportive housing is *housing*, not a program. Services are person-centered and comprehensive: the tenant works with staff to set his/her life goals, and staff do whatever they can to help her/him attain them.

Is it like a NYCHA apartment?

No, supportive housing is different from NYCHA housing on several fronts. There is staff in supportive housing dedicated to tenants' success in becoming independent, fulfilled adults. Supportive housing is also nonprofit owned and operated: nonprofit landlords ensure that property management issues are dealt with expeditiously and that the housing is good quality. And supportive housing for youth is not permanent: it is offered only until a youth turns 26 years old.

Do I have to pay rent?

Yes, but no more than a third of your income, whatever that may be. In Good Shepherd Services' Chelsea Foyer, tenants' rent is accumulated in an account to cover the costs of moving into independent housing.

Will the staff in supportive housing help me get a good job, go back to school, get my own apartment?

Yes: staff in supportive housing will work with you to help you acquire the skills to be productive, fulfilled adults, including help managing health, mental health and addiction issues, going back to school, learning a trade, help getting and keeping a job, help dealing with trauma, parenting and connecting to family.