

# 2017 TENANT OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FORM



Nominate a tenant to tell their story, inspire others, and celebrate with us!

Every year, the Supportive Housing Network of New York honors 1-2 supportive housing tenants with the **Tenant of the Year Award** at our Annual Awards Gala. This year the gala will take place on October 18, 2017, from 6pm-9pm at Capitale, 130 Bowery in New York. The Tenant of the Year winner will receive a \$200 gift certificate and be recognized at the gala, as well as on the Network's website and social media. Tenants of the Year attend the gala as our guests. Travel and lodging for out-of-town winners may be provided upon request.

Why **nominate someone** or **encourage a tenant to apply**? This is an amazing opportunity for a tenant to tell their story of how supportive housing changed their life and inspire the rest of the supportive housing community. We are looking for **tenants who can illustrate how supportive housing has made a difference in their lives, and how they have made a difference** in their supportive housing residence and larger community. We want to learn how supportive housing improved this individual's life. **We want to share the winner's story and celebrate their success!**

We request that each nonprofit agency nominate only one tenant per site/program. We ask that you please nominate a tenant who has lived in supportive housing for at least a year, defined as: a residence or scattered site apartment program where the tenants may stay as long as they like; their tenancy is protected by a lease or lease-like agreement; their tenancy is not contingent upon acceptance or compliance of services; services are offered on-site in the building or in the case of scattered site, directly in the tenant's home. Please also nominate a tenant who would feel comfortable being considered and willing to attend the Gala. Prior years' nominees are welcome to re-apply. Please note: we receive many nominations, but gala attendees are limited to those who are selected.

Criteria for selection include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Tenant desire to speak to how supportive housing has positively impacted their life, and to speak to Gala guests about their journey, challenges, successes, and goals.
- 2) Leadership in the tenant's community/ies, which can include their residence, external community involvement, career or educational or volunteer environments, or community leadership.
- 3) Marked growth (measured as client-centered) from the time the tenant came into supportive housing until today.
- 4) Unique qualities exhibiting strength and self-empowerment, which we will all recognize and celebrate.

## Requirements:

- Two letters of references from the agency on behalf of the tenant from a case manager, social worker, program director or fellow resident
- A typed narrative, maximum 500 words, that:
  - Tells the tenant's story before entering supportive housing
  - Includes concrete examples of the individual's accomplishments, leadership, community service or volunteer efforts
  - Explains the role supportive housing played in these accomplishments, along with descriptions/examples of the qualities that make the tenant exceptional
- A nomination consent form completed by the tenant (see attached)
- An electronic photograph of the tenant
- Tenant availability and willingness to accept the award at the gala with a brief (2-3 minute) acceptance speech, which they prepare and submit to the Network one week prior to the event. In place of a live speech, the tenant may be asked to participate in a video that will be screened at the gala.

Winners will be chosen by a Network staff committee by the end of August. Nominations are due by August 1<sup>st</sup> and should be sent to Sydney Kopp-Richardson at [skopp-richardson@shnny.org](mailto:skopp-richardson@shnny.org).

### I. Tenant Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Residence \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years as tenant: \_\_\_\_\_

### II. Nominator Contact Information

Nominator \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring Agency \_\_\_\_\_ Site \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

On a separate sheet of paper, please type:

### III. Narrative

In 500 words or less, describe how the tenant you are nominating has utilized supportive housing to its fullest capacity to improve his or her life. Please include information about the nominee's history and the issues that led them to supportive housing; describe the obstacles he/she has overcome; include concrete examples of the individual's accomplishments, leadership, community service or volunteer efforts; describe qualities of character that distinguish the nominee from other tenants; and frame how supportive housing has played a role in the individual's success in overcoming these obstacles. Include the tenant's name and sponsoring agency on the top of each sheet. Please see the attached examples of previous Tenants of the Year.

# TENANT OF THE YEAR 2017 CONSENT FORM

All tenants nominated must give their full consent. No nomination form will be accepted without the Tenant Consent Form.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (*supportive housing tenant*), accept this nomination to be the Supportive Housing Network of New York's 2017 Tenant of the Year. By accepting this nomination, I give my consent for the Supportive Housing Network of New York to contact \_\_\_\_\_ (*nominator's name*) to disclose personal information about my life experiences that have led me to succeed in supportive housing.

I give my consent for this information, including my photographic image, to be published in the Network's 2017 Annual Awards Gala program journal and in future marketing materials.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tenant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nominator Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date