



# WHAT IS SUPPORTIVE HOUSING?

Supportive housing is permanent, affordable housing with on-site voluntary services for those who have experienced homelessness and face the greatest systemic barriers to accessing and maintaining permanent housing.



## ENDS HOMELESSNESS

**Supportive housing is the single most effective solution to homelessness among the most marginalized individuals and families.** It provides permanent housing and critical support services to those that need it most - people living with serious mental health diagnoses, substance use disorder, chronic illness including HIV/AIDS, and histories of trauma and abuse. Black people and people of color are also disproportionately represented because of the history of systemic and institutional racism.

Studies on supportive housing show high retention rates, with **only 5% of tenants returning to homelessness.**

## SAVES MONEY

**Supportive Housing is the most cost effective response to homelessness.** Supportive housing residents are typically frequent users of expensive emergency services like shelters, hospitals, prisons and psychiatric centers. Because placement in supportive housing reduces use of these services, it saves taxpayer dollars.

A recent study by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene concluded that **supportive housing saves the public approximately \$10,000 per person per year.**

## IMPROVES NEIGHBORHOODS

**Supportive housing enriches communities and increases property values.** Supportive housing's high-quality design and construction, excellent property management and focus on security improve neighborhood desirability. Its 24/7 staffing and internal and external security features increase security. And residences are subject to long-term oversight by multiple private and public agencies.

The development of supportive housing also brings federal, state, and local dollars to the neighborhood, **creating permanent and temporary employment opportunities for neighborhood residents.**

## SAVES LIVES

Services provided are specific to the needs of individual tenants and can include case management, vocational and employment services, child care, independent living skills training, substance use counseling, and psychiatric and primary health care. Tenants are able to stay housed, get healthy, and reconnect to the community.

***"Supportive housing brought me back to life."***

# THE SUPPORTIVE HOUSING NETWORK OF NEW YORK



## WHO WE ARE

The Supportive Housing Network of New York is a **membership and advocacy organization representing over 200 nonprofits that collectively run over 62,000 units of supportive housing statewide.** Member organizations employ thousands of human service workers, with Black and brown women comprising over 70% of the workforce.

## WHAT WE DO

The Network uses **advocacy, public education, training, technical assistance, research, and policy analysis** to: promote the growth and effectiveness of supportive housing, increase the public's understanding of supportive housing, share best practices and foster community in order to encourage the creation of enough supportive housing to end chronic homelessness across New York State.

**The Network's advocacy led to the current State and City supportive housing commitments – the Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI) and NYC 15/15 – and continues to ensure its implementation – while also working to preserve existing older stock.**

FOUNDED IN

1988

MORE THAN

200

NONPROFIT MEMBERS

OPERATING

62K

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING UNITS



@theNetworkNY

Info@shnny.org

the Network  
Supportive Housing Network of NY

