The Supportive Housing Network of New York

2019 TENANT OF THE YEAR

Nominate a tenant to tell their story and celebrate with us at our 2019 Annual Gala!

Tenant of the Year

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.

When: Wednesday, October 23rd, 6-9pm
Where: Capitale, 130 Bowery, New York, NY 10013

Why nominate 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.

The Tenant of the Year will receive a $200 gift certificate and be recognized at the gala, as well as on the Network’s website and social media. Travel and lodging for out-of-town winners may be provided upon request.

Who should be nominated or apply?

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.

The tenant should feel comfortable being considered, willing to either be recorded for a 2-3 minute segment sharing their story and have that screened at the gala, or speak for 2-3 minutes on stage at the gala when accepting their award.

The tenant should have lived in supportive housing for at least a year, defined as: a permanent single-site 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.

Prior years’ nominees are welcome to re-apply. All nominees will receive a certificate and be asked to join us at a breakfast in the fall. We request that each nonprofit agency nominate only one tenant per site/program.

Please note: We receive many nominations, but gala attendees are limited to only those who are selected.
Tenant of the Year Criteria:

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

Tenant of the Year Application/Nomination 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.

Nominations are due by August 15th and should be sent to Joelle Ballam-Schwan at jballam-schwan@shnny.org.
2019 TENANT OF THE YEAR NOMINATION/APPLICATION

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 their life. Please include information about the nominee’s history and the issues that led them to supportive housing; describe the obstacles they overcame; 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.
2019 TENANT OF THE YEAR 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 2018 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 2018 Annual Awards Gala program journal and in future marketing materials.

______________________________________  ____________________
Tenant Signature  Date

______________________________________  ____________________
Nominator Signature  Date