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Permanent Supportive Housing Certification

Virginia Housing Permanent Supportive Housing Services Certification

Permanent Supportive Housing is housing consisting of units designated for individuals or families that are homeless, at-risk of homelessness or who have multiple barriers to independent living.

Best practices are described by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services:
<http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content/SMA10-4510/SMA10-4510-06-BuildingYourProgram-PSH.pdf>

For consideration, provide **all** of the following:

1. Attach a list of developments for which you've provided permanent supportive housing services. Describe the types of services that were provided.
2. A signed copy of an MOU with a local service provider agency(ies). If no MOU exists, the service provider must sign this certification. If neither is available, provide an explanation for the lack of demonstrated partnership and describe how the property will receive referrals and from whom the residents will receive services.

3. Describe your target population(s).

4. List the types of supportive services to be offered.

5. Who will be providing supportive services?

6. What percentage of the total number of units will be marketed to and held available for tenants in need of supportive services?

_____ %

In addition, I/we certify the following:

Services

Tenant choice. Supportive housing tenants will have choices in what support services they receive (i.e., not a limited menu of services). Individual Support Plans will reflect tenant-defined needs and preferences. As supportive service tenants' needs change over time, tenants can receive more or less intensive support services.

Assertive outreach and engagement. The service team will use a variety of outreach and engagement techniques to bring tenants into helping relationships.

Case management. Case managers will serve as the bridge between tenants and the supports that help them achieve stability and long-term tenancy.

Recovery supports. Services will include at least one of the following:

- Mainstream supports, e.g., income supports from public benefits programs, healthcare from hospitals and clinics and employment help from vocational agencies
- Specialized supports, e.g., life skills training, budgeting, medication management and behavioral health treatment
- Natural supports, e.g., connections with peers, family, community and faith communities

Housing

Tenant choice. Supportive housing tenants will be able to choose where they want to live. Tenants cannot be evicted from their housing for rejecting services.

Access. Supportive housing units will be available to people who are experiencing homelessness, are precariously housed and/or who have multiple barriers to housing stability, including disabilities and substance abuse.

Quality. Supportive housing units will be similar to other units in the project.

Integration. Supportive housing tenants with disabilities will have a right to receive housing and supportive services in the most integrated settings available, including in buildings that include neighbors who do not have disabilities and where there is access to an array of community services and resources used by people with and without disabilities.

Rights of tenancy. Supportive housing tenant leases or subleases will confer full rights of tenancy, including limitations on landlords' entry into the property and the right to challenge eviction in landlord-tenant court. Tenants can remain in their homes as long as the basic requirements of tenancy are met—paying the rent, not interfering with other tenants' use of their homes, not causing property damage, etc. House rules, if any, are similar to those found in other housing.

Affordability. Supportive housing tenants should pay no more than 30% of their incomes toward rent and basic utilities.

Coordination between housing and services. Property managers and support service staff will stay in regular communication and coordinate their efforts to help prevent evictions and to ensure tenants facing eviction have access to necessary services and supports.

Delineated roles. There will be a functional separation of roles, with the housing elements (rent collection, property maintenance, enforcement of responsibilities of tenancy) carried out by different staff than those providing services (case management, mental health treatment, wraparound services).

The undersigned Owner certifies that each of the above statements is true and correct.

I/We agree that the commitment to provide supportive housing will remain in place throughout the Compliance Period (as described in the Extended Use Agreement).

Date

Owner/Applicant

By: _____

Its: _____

Title

Service Provider

By: _____

Its: _____

Title