



UPSTATE NEW YORK

VOA's Permanent Supportive Housing in Rochester

VOA's permanent supportive housing is available to people who are chronically homeless (meaning they have recurring bouts of homelessness), dealing with mental health or addiction issues, or are at-risk of becoming homeless. Mental health and addiction are significant contributing factors to homelessness and poverty in Rochester. Compounding the challenge is the shortage of safe and affordable housing.

- More than 750 people are homeless on any given night.
- There are nearly 14,000 people admitted into alcohol and substance abuse treatment programs in Monroe County each year.
- According to the latest report, more than 30,000 people in Monroe County are recipients of some form of mental health service.



VOA follows the "housing first" initiative which states that a person cannot work on their challenges with mental health or addiction without the basic human right of housing. VOA has multiple apartment buildings with more than 100 units in Rochester that offer permanent supportive housing. The buildings provide studio apartments with communal kitchens and restrooms for residents. Although the facilities are strictly drug free, people who relapse are not removed from their home as they work towards recovery and self-sufficiency. As long as residents do not inhibit progress of other tenants they can stay in their program.

Establishing and achieving goals:

After being placed in VOA's permanent supportive housing, residents work with case managers and 24-hour resident assistant staff to establish and achieve individual goals. Case managers work to keep people on track by providing the following guidance based on the individual needs of the resident:

- Daily living skills such as cooking and hygiene
- Connection to mental health and addiction counseling in the community
- Family, life, and emotional coaching
- Transportation to appointments, grocery stores, and job fairs
- Job readiness training and resume assistance



To Support These Efforts and Learn More

Contact Valerie Hoak at 585-402-7218 or
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Visit our website at www.voaupny.org/housing