

OFFICE OF SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

The Office of Supportive Housing (OSH) is the public entity charged with the policy, planning and coordination of the City's response to homelessness. Major areas of work include the coordination of the Homeless Continuum of Care and implementation of Philadelphia's Recalibrated Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness. OSH offers a wide array of services including emergency, transitional and supportive housing to individuals, couples and families. The Continuum of Care includes:

Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing

Prevention services include housing stabilization and cash assistance with rent, utilities and security deposits to households city-wide to resolve a housing crisis and prevent homelessness. Rapid- Re-Housing provides housing stabilization and cash assistance with rent, security deposit, utility deposits, payments or arrearages to move homeless households living in emergency or transitional housing back into the community and sustain their housing.

Housing Retention – Housing counseling and mortgage assistance to households in targeted zip codes to resolve an immediate housing crisis and prevent them from losing their home and becoming homeless.

Emergency Assistance and Response Unit (EARU) – *The Emergency Assistance and Response Unit (EARU)* provides limited financial assistance and/or emergency response for families and individuals displaced or made homeless. This assistance is for residents of Philadelphia displaced by disasters, natural and otherwise, such as fires, gas explosions, collapsed buildings, weather related crises and residents in units declared unsafe or unfit. Temporary shelter can be provided following or as a supplement to Red Cross disaster assistance aid.

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Limited financial assistance to prevent homelessness is also available for residents with court ordered evictions. Applications for assistance can be made by reporting in person to 5252 N. 13th Street, Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM.

Homeless Centralized Intake Services

Assess eligibility and service needs of consumers presenting for placement into emergency housing. Consumers are placed in appropriate emergency housing, boarding homes, or alternative housing. Mental health assessments and referrals to drug/alcohol treatment, health services, children and youth services, legal services and veteran's services, etc. are provided as needed. OSH has the following intake and after-hours reception sites:

- **Apple Tree Family Center – for single females and families – 1430 Cherry Street 7am – 3pm**
- **The Red Shield – afterhours reception for families – 715 N Broad Street after 5pm**
- **Sheila Dennis House – afterhours reception 2601 N. Broad Street after 5pm**
- **Ridge Center – intake and after hours reception for single males – 1360 Ridge Avenue.**

Emergency Housing

Short-term accommodation for individuals and families to resolve an immediate housing crisis, assess level of need, and provide case management assistance in obtaining appropriate housing.

Transitional Housing

Transitional Housing helps households move toward self-sufficiency by providing supported semi-independent living for a period of 12-24 months. OSH coordinates with City departments and non-profit organizations to develop transitional housing for homeless individuals and families.

Permanent Supportive Housing

Permanent Supportive Housing provides homeless and disabled individuals and families affordable housing that is linked to supportive services. OSH administers contracts with non-profit organizations to provide more than 700 units of permanent supportive housing to homeless individuals and families.

Housing Inspection

OSH Providers: Inspection of private market rental housing to assure safety and affordability prior to occupancy by OSH referred consumers.

Emergency Food Distribution Program

State food distribution to OSH shelters and Philadelphia soup kitchens, food cupboards and food pantries.

Riverview Home

Personal boarding home for low income consumers with a physical or mental disability that require assistance with the activities of daily living.