



There's No Place Like Home

MHA Programs for Recovery and Housing



MHA offers support to prevent and address homelessness among greater Springfield's most marginalized populations. Through a variety of person-centric, need-specific programs, MHA applies the principles of Housing First to ensure that all people have access to safe and affordable housing, regardless of their individual challenges.

We deliver...

- **Supportive housing programs** and wrap around services specifically designed to help chronically homeless individuals to achieve stability and transition to independent, permanent housing. This includes individuals with a history of substance use, incarceration or trauma.
- **Youth residential programs** for adolescents experiencing behavioral health challenges and who are served by the Department of Children and Families (DCF).
- **Residential and outreach supports** to individuals with mental health challenges.

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MHA continues to be a pioneer in addressing chronic homelessness and substance use recovery. Our organization is respected locally, state-wide and nationally for our work piloting innovations including the Tenancy Preservation Program, Pay for Success and Home & Healthy for Good.

RECOVERY PROGRAMS

GRIT – Residential Recovery Services program for people who experience both psychiatric disability and addiction. Provides structured treatment and relapse prevention support as well as connections to community resources to sustain sobriety. Three programs service adult men, young adult men 18 – 26, and LGBTQ adults.

BestLife Wellness Center – Outpatient center providing services for emotional wellness, including comprehensive substance use treatment and recovery support for adults and children.

Youth in Transition – Residential program for young adult men and women aged 18 – 22 who are referred by DCF. Incorporates structured clinical treatment services to prepare youth to transition into independent and/or supported adult services.

TREATMENT AND HOUSING PROGRAMS

Safe Haven – Specialized shelter for adult men and women challenged by chronic homelessness, substance use and psychiatric conditions. The program’s goal is to help participants stabilize their lives, pursue their goals, and overcome barriers to housing so they can live independently.

Adult Residential Programs – Group residences for adults referred by the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and who are receiving support through Adult Community Clinical Services (ACCS). Staff provide support and skill teaching to promote independent living.

Avon Place – Residential program for adults referred by DMH and receiving support through ACCS who have a psychiatric disability and substance use disorder.

Women’s Program – Residential program for adult women referred by DMH and receiving support through ACCS who have experienced trauma and psychiatric disability. Services are provided to help women regulate emotional distress and learn the skills needed to live independently and productively in the community.

Young Adult Program – Transitional residential program for youth age 18 – 26 referred by DMH and receiving support through ACCS. Resources and supportive services are provided for up to two years and focus on skill attainment to support transitions to independent community living which include successfully managing money and budgeting, employment and/or education.

PERMANENT SUPPORTED HOUSING AND HOMELESS DIVERSION PROGRAMS

Aggressive Treatment and Relapse Prevention (ATARP) – Outreach program for people referred by DMH who are homeless and have recent experience with addiction and/or recovery. Provides a housing subsidy and supportive services to help stabilize and transition participants to a tenant-based subsidy and graduation from services, using a Housing First approach.

Regional Engagement and Assessment Center & Housing (REACH) – Outreach program for people who are chronically homeless and referred through the City of Springfield’s continuum of care. Provides a housing subsidy and supportive services focused on housing placement and maintenance, using a Housing First approach.

Community Support Program for People Experiencing Chronic Homelessness (CSPECH) – Medicaid-funded outreach program for people who are chronically homeless and referred through the continuum of care. Provides a housing subsidy and supportive services focused on housing placement and maintenance, using a Housing First approach.

(MORE SERVICES ON THE BACK)

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PERMANENT SUPPORTED HOUSING AND HOMELESS DIVERSION PROGRAMS CONTINUED

Home & Healthy for Good (HHG) – First-in-the-nation initiative to address chronic homelessness. In partnership with the Massachusetts Housing Shelter Alliance (MHSA), HHG provides low-threshold, permanent housing with supportive services to those who would otherwise rely on costly emergency resources. This enables participants to address their often complex health issues more effectively than they would on the streets or in shelters.

Pay for Success (PFS) – First-in-the-nation initiative (based on the HHG model) to address chronic homelessness and implemented by the Massachusetts Alliance for Supportive Housing (MASH) for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Philanthropic and private investors provide upfront funding for the initiative. An independent evaluator determines if PFS achieved its goals, and if the program is successful, the Commonwealth reimburses MASH, which repays investors. MHA participates in PFS by supplying permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals served by the program.

Tenancy Preservation Program (TPP) – Groundbreaking homelessness prevention program that works with individuals and families receiving a housing subsidy and facing eviction because of behaviors related to a disability, such as mental illness, developmental disability, substance use or age-related impairments. TPP consults with the housing courts and functions as a neutral party between the tenant and the landlord. (TPP Upstream provides a similar intervention prior to court involvement.)

For More Information:

To learn more about eligibility or referrals for MHA Recovery and Housing programs, please contact Christine Palmieri, MHA's VP Recovery and Housing, at 413-734-5376 or cpalmieri@mhainc.org.



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