

THE CENTER IN ASBURY PARK

A COMMITMENT TO
STABLE HOUSING FOR
FORMERLY HOMELESS
INDIVIDUALS LIVING
WITH HIV



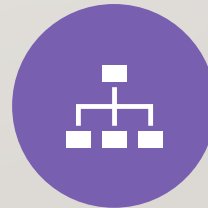
OVERVIEW



OPENED IN 2006 WITH
25 STUDIO UNITS



FOCUSED ON
PROVIDING STABLE
HOUSING FOR
FORMERLY HOMELESS
INDIVIDUALS WITH HIV



UNITS WERE UNDER
MONMOUTH COUNTY'S
SECTION 8 PROJECT-
BASED PROGRAM



HOUSING VOUCHERS
TIED TO UNITS, NOT
INDIVIDUALS

PROJECT- BASED MODEL



Residents signed a service agreement and treatment plan with a county HIV caseworker



Compliance was a condition of residency



Ensured engagement with necessary services and support systems

SHIFT TO HOUSING FIRST MODEL

Transitioned from a project-based approach about 4 years ago

Housing First model emphasizes housing as a fundamental right

No loss of housing due to non-compliance with service or treatment plans

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

Adapting to Housing First model with 25 units under one roof

Required reevaluation of the Center's approach

Successfully navigated the transition with the addition of a Director of Client and Housing Services

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION: WHY DEI IS IMPORTANT IN NONPROFIT HOUSING:

- **Promotes Fairness:** DEI ensures that everyone, especially those from marginalized or disadvantaged communities, has access to safe and affordable housing.
- **Builds Stronger Communities:** By valuing diversity and fostering inclusion, housing programs can create more cohesive, supportive, and resilient communities.
- **Reduces Inequities:** DEI initiatives can help to address and correct historical and systemic inequities that have left certain groups disproportionately affected by homelessness and housing instability.
- **Improves Outcomes:** Inclusive and equitable housing programs are better equipped to meet the needs of all residents, leading to improved outcomes in terms of stability, health, and well-being.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION THROUGH LIVED EXPERIENCE



Incorporation of staff with lived experiences through previous employment



Director of Client and Housing Services brings experience working with the HIV population



Lived experience prioritized over formal educational qualifications in leadership roles

COMMITMENT TO MISSION

- Continues to fulfill the mission of providing housing and support
- Adapting to evolving models of care and housing assistance
- Ensuring a safe and supportive environment for all residents

