

# The foundations of success –

About our work

# Opportunities start with housing.

Home matters—for everyone. And for people experiencing homelessness, a place to stay means more than a roof over their head.

It means:

Solid ground beneath their feet. Stability to recover from setbacks. Support to promote good health. Opportunities to move forward. —

Yet the most vulnerable among the homeless often encounter the toughest obstacles to housing. Those who need resources to heal—people with mental illness, addiction, and other trauma-related issues—have few options that address their recovery and ongoing wellness. For more than 30 years, Community Housing Network has been developing and managing permanent supportive housing in Franklin County for people with complex issues. People who have been derailed by illness, and need space and time to heal. Who have experienced hardship, and deserve respect for their resilience. Who have potential and plans, and should have every resource to reach them.



Our mission is to provide supportive housing that fosters recovery, sustains wellness, and empowers success. Our vision is that communities support and embrace people with disabilities by providing the assistance they need to have an equitable opportunity to thrive.





## Stability starts with support.

Since 1987, Community Housing Network has grown into the largest and longest-standing provider of permanent supportive housing in Franklin County. We've developed properties at more than **160 sites all over Franklin County that house more than 1,400 residents at a time**.



At Community Housing Network, we believe that housing opens doors.

It fulfills a basic human need that then allows us to address other human needs, especially those that are complex and often chronic. Once they have a home with CHN, residents have access to a crucial support system. They have a team of people by their side, ready to help them overcome obstacles, sustain wellness, and achieve their aspirations. CHN staff is always ready to go the extra mile because our residents deserve nothing less. Whether it's counseling or healthcare; getting food or furniture; transportation or job training whatever they need, we're here for them. We're a source of stability, because stability makes more room for opportunities.



#### Permanent

Residents can stay until they feel well and ready to move forward two to four years on average because we do everything we can to keep them housed and healthy over the long-term.

#### **Supportive**

Residents have access to a range of voluntary services tailored to help them recover their wellbeing and confidence, from case management to counseling, treatment to transportation.

#### Affordable

The average annual income of Community Housing Network residents is \$5,445, so all units are subsidized and rent is calculated on a sliding scale.

#### Housing

**Our 1,400+ units** include options from individual apartments to family homes, all designed to foster a sense of peace, safety, and dignity.

### **Community starts with relationships.**

#### **Our services**

It takes community to build stabilityteams of people who are creative, compassionate solution-finders.

CHN property managers and service coordinators build relationships with residents and regularly ask how we can best support their well-being. For individuals who want specialized help, we create voluntary, individualized housing support plans with our network of human services, healthcare, addiction counseling, and other partners throughout Franklin County. We've honed this blendedmanagement approach over more than 30 years, partnering with local experts to ensure that residents receive housing and supports that are coordinated, streamlined, and most of all, helpful.



#### **Our buildings**

All of our developments are designed to provide comfort, consistency, and community to those who live there. To ensure residents feel truly at home, units include kitchens with appliances, full bathrooms, and bedrooms. Many buildings offer computers, exercise equipment, community rooms with TVs, patios with grills, and more. And because we know that being part of a community aids healing, we often host cookouts, holiday parties, and outings that bring residents together.

#### **Expanding innovation**

At Community Housing Network, we've always embraced a spirit of service and an ethos of innovation. In 2020—in the midst of the pandemic—we opened Central Ohio's first permanent supportive housing development dedicated to vulnerable young adults ages 18 to 24 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. For these young people, who are often fleeing family conflict, trafficking, and neglect, Marsh Brook Place offers safe spaces and ageappropriate resources designed specially to empower them to move forward successfully, including parenting services, education and employment tools, a calming room, and more.





#### Our housing types

**CHN's continuum of housing offers varying levels of supports**—with 24/7 on-site supports in some properties to fully community-based supports in others. This system allows us to provide a range of options for our residents—all designed to answer their needs while enhancing their self-sufficiency and respecting their dignity.

# Success starts with progress.

### With stability and support, Community Housing Network empowers the people we serve to live dignified, productive, purposeful lives.

Between 2015 and 2020, **an average of 96% of CHN residents maintained permanent housing**, and 98% of those who moved out did not return to homelessness.

Through supportive services, many residents succeed at recovering from addiction, learning job skills, raising their income level, and attending school. They are better able to sustain their physical and emotional well-being, maintain healthy relationships with their families and others, secure and maintain employment, and work toward personal goals.



As we help each resident, we also make positive social change.

# We combat the growing mental health crisis.

Studies prove that residents of permanent supportive housing spend less time hospitalized because they receive support that helps them manage and cope with their mental illness. With CHN, residents have access to experts who guide them through the complexities of the healthcare system, connecting them with the services they need, when they need them.

As part of our work, Community Housing Network collaborates with community groups, human service providers, public officials, police, and neighbors to proactively prevent crises and serve as a safety net. These relationships give us insight into what's happening in the community so that we can step up for those who could benefit from our services.

#### We fight homelessness.

Community Housing Network has served 9,829 households since 1987, which represents generations of people no longer living unhoused. And along with the social benefits of housing, the economic benefits are staggering. Some studies show that communities save up to 65% in public costs because housed people are less likely to use emergency services, including hospitals, jails, and emergency shelters, than those who are experiencing homelessness.

#### We further equity.

By housing people with disabilities and helping them find employment across our community, we go a long way toward erasing the stigma of homelessness and mental illness. We create neighborhoods and workplaces with people of diverse backgrounds and incomes, where compassion and mutual respect live.

#### COMMUNITY HOUSING NETWORK

For more information and to donate, please visit:

chninc.org

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