



# Permanent Supportive Housing

## What is Permanent Supportive Housing?

Permanent Supportive Housing is an evidence-based practice that combines affordable housing with mental health services.

In 2015, Virginia's, Department of Behavioral Health and Development Services (DBHDS) began working with local Community Services Boards to provide Permanent Supportive Housing to individuals with serious mental illness who are at risk of homelessness.

The partnership uses housing first principles to ensure individuals have no barriers to entry for the program. Housing first is an approach where an individual housing burden is met first, so they may concentrate on achieving other personal goals; such as employment, personal finance, or treatment for substance use and mental health needs.

Individuals receiving Permanent Supportive Housing are not required to receive other services from Mount Rogers, and do not need to be housing ready.

## Housing Ready vs. Housing First

**Housing Ready** is defined as having the skills necessary for housing success; paying bills on time, cooking, cleaning, and being employed or seeking employment.

**Housing First** is a model where first housed and are provided the additional supports necessary for recovery and stability as needed.

## Who can we help?

- Must meet the DBHDS criteria for Serious Mental Illness.
- Must be a member of one of the targeted populations for Permanent Supportive Housing, including:
  - In a state psychiatric hospital with no discharge address.
  - In a supervised residential setting.
  - Chronically homeless or at risk of becoming chronically homeless
  - Unstably housed and a frequent user of crisis, hospital, or criminal justice services.

## Contact

### Permanent Supportive Housing

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