

## Commons at Buckingham Columbus, OH



### Project Snapshot

Commons at Buckingham is a four-story development that provides 100 studio units of supportive housing, including 75 for formerly homeless persons and 15 for people leaving psychiatric group homes and/or hospitals. The project is an award winning, Platinum LEED-certified building with on-site services and amenities.

The site is located near public transportation lines and community amenities. There is an on-site resource center and an on-site health and wellness clinic sponsored by National Church Residences' InCare in home health program.

### Owner, Developer, Property Manager and Service Provider:

- **Developer, Owner and Manager:** National Church Residences
- **Service Providers:** National Church Residences

### Tenant Profile:

Low-income and extremely low-income persons with disabling conditions, including former residents of skilled nursing care facilities and group homes (vulnerable elders)

### Service Approach:

Commons at Buckingham provides comprehensive on-site services with a community engagement program that requires residents to be engaged in employment, a vocation, education training or volunteer community service. On-site services include case management, an employment resource center and social/recreational services. Programs are designed to help residents maintain housing stability, increase their income and enhance the community.

Commons at Buckingham was created as a collaboration between National Church Residences, the Community Shelter Board, Franklin County Alcohol & Drug Addiction Mental Health Board, the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority, the Chalmers P. Wiley V.A. Ambulatory Care Center and the Franklin County Veterans Service Commission. The project opened in July 2010 to serve the unique needs of the community's most vulnerable populations, including formerly homeless individuals and those with disabilities in quality supportive housing.

National Church Residences, the project developer, property manager and primary services provider, is the nation's largest provider of affordable senior housing and services. NCR's InCare program sponsors the on-site health and wellness clinic that provides consulting and services from registered nurses who visit twice per week. The clinic also provides blood pressure and glucose checks and medical and wellness monitoring.

Commons at Buckingham ensures the most vulnerable are prioritized for housing, as the project targets very specific vulnerable populations and performs vulnerability assessments of potential residents. The project has successfully housed tenants exiting institutional care, and provides supports for them to age in place. Tenants participate in service program design and inform property management policies and procedures

Commons at Buckingham received a HUD HOME program 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary Door Knocker Award as an exemplary project reaching underserved populations, expanding access to affordable housing and represents innovative ways HOME funds can be used to meet affordable housing needs.