



Photo courtesy of Interfaith Housing Development Corporation

Sanctuary Place

Sanctuary Place is a 69-unit permanent supportive housing development in West Humboldt Park that includes 63 efficiency apartments for single women, and 6 three-bedroom town homes for women with children. Each unit has approximately 320 square feet of space, including a private bath and efficiency kitchen. In partnership with the West Humboldt Park Family and Community Development Council, Interfaith Housing Development Corporation of Chicago created this permanent supportive housing project to serve homeless women and mothers with special needs, including HIV/AIDS, chemical dependency, and/or mental illness.

Owner: Interfaith Housing Development Corporation (IHDC)

Service Provider: Interfaith Council for the Homeless

CSH and the Project: As part of Mayor Dailey's SRO initiative, the City of Chicago Department of Housing evaluated a variety of different sites for projects that would become a part of this SRO preservation pilot project. IHDC was asked to submit drawings for prospective sites for this project, but was not ensured reimbursement for these expenses. Further, when the site for this project was selected, IHDC commissioned a report that would provide an overview of the social service delivery system in the 27th Ward of Chicago in order to evaluate how Sanctuary Place would fit into the broader social service delivery system. IHDC used this report to ensure that social service referrals would be readily available to Sanctuary Place tenants should they develop supportive housing in the 27th Ward. CSH provided IHDC with a grant in the amount of \$14,140 to cover non-reimbursable, pre-development expenses that included this assessment of services to the homeless in the 27th Ward of Chicago and preliminary architectural schematic designs for a site that was not chosen as the final site for this project.

Key Features and Innovations:

- The supportive service partner at Sanctuary Place is the Interfaith Council for the Homeless, providing mental health counseling, substance use consultation, individual case management, general therapy, and job training.
- St. Leonard's Ministries' Grace House, a transitional housing residence for female ex-offenders, provides case management and counseling for Sanctuary Place tenants who have completed its two-year program.
- Counseling space, tenant meeting rooms, and staff offices occupy the ground floor. Tenants may also take advantage of a large garden and playground.
- Units have a second secured closet in the hallway, near each tenant's door, to increase space in the unit. Units were designed to be less than 400 square feet to avoid a city requirement to provide parking for larger units.
- To make each unit feel more spacious, entryway hallways are angled, and each unit has large Chicago-style windows and ten-foot ceilings.
- This project incorporates many green and sustainable design features, and in 2004 Sanctuary Place was awarded Mayor Daley's Green Works Award for Outstanding Residential Project.

The Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) is a national non-profit organization and Community Development Financial Institution that helps communities create permanent housing with services to prevent and end homelessness. Founded in 1991, CSH advances its mission by providing advocacy, expertise, leadership, and financial resources to make it easier to create and operate supportive housing. CSH seeks to help create an expanded supply of supportive housing for people, including single adults, families with children, and young adults, who have extremely low-incomes, who have disabling conditions, and/or face other significant challenges that place them at on-going risk of homelessness. For information regarding CSH's current office locations, please see www.csh.org/contactus.



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