

Chapter 2: Guiding Principles of Moving On

Over the past decade, CSH has worked with several communities ó including Detroit, MI, Los Angeles, CA, Seattle, WA, Atlanta, GA, New York, NY, and Chicago, IL ó to plan, implement and evaluate Moving On initiatives. While programs vary based on local needs, resources, capacities and partnerships, all are guided by the following key principles:

- 1) **Voluntary:** A core component of supportive housing is that tenants are bestowed all the rights and responsibilities of tenancy under state and local law, including the right to remain in their apartment as long as they desire and are complying with lease terms. To be clear, Moving On is not about coercing tenants out of their units, limiting the rights of tenancy, or otherwise violating the fundamental principles and values of supportive housing. Consistent with the principle that all services in supportive housing are voluntary, programs must build processes and procedures that ensure that the decision to move on from supportive housing is voluntary and self-initiated. While programs can and should use creative strategies and incentives to encourage individuals and families to consider moving on if they feel ready, no one should feel pressured or coerced to leave their unit.
- 2) **Maximizing Housing Options:** A primary goal of Moving On is to provide people with disabilities the opportunity and support they need to be able to live, work and receive services in the most integrated setting possible in a community of their choice. Policies should further tenants' rights to choose where and with whom to live, as well as whether to engage in services. Tenants should be offered a variety of housing options, to the extent possible, and should not be required to accept an accommodation if the individual chooses not to do so.
- 3) **Promoting Economic Mobility and Self Sufficiency:** Moving On is first and foremost about celebrating growth, recovery and tenant success. As such, Moving On should not be created or operated as just a voucher rental assistance program, but as an opportunity that is approached with holistic, comprehensive pre-transition services in place ó including living-skills training, employment, and community integration supports - as well as strong aftercare supports to ensure a successful transition over the long-term.

[Chapter 3: Creating a Culture of Moving On](#)