

Supportive Housing

Definition & Overview



What is supportive housing?

Supportive housing combines **affordable housing with supportive services** to help people who face the most complex challenges live with stability, autonomy, and dignity. This innovative, data-driven solution helps people thrive by breaking the cycle of homelessness, ensuring that all individuals have the opportunity to become integral parts of their communities. Supportive housing exists in rural, suburban, and urban areas, and includes both site-based and scattered-site projects.



Features & benefits of supportive housing



Prioritizes households facing **multiple barriers to housing stability**.



Provides affordable housing **without time limits**.



Offers **flexible, comprehensive services** to all household members.



Provides households with a lease or sublease **identical to a market-rate agreement**.



Effectively coordinates with key partners to foster housing stability and **overall well-being**.



Offers tenant-centered resources that enable people to **build strong social support networks, foster recovery, and create a sense of belonging**.



Supports tenants in **connecting with community-based resources** and activities.



Includes units and buildings **designed around tenants' stated needs**, at minimum meeting habitability standards with a private and lockable living area, kitchen, and bathroom.

These primary features cover all types of supportive housing projects: **for individuals and for families; whether site-based or scattered-site; and in rural, suburban or urban areas**. How they are implemented will vary due to the diversity of supportive housing models and the populations served.

The goals of supportive housing can guide the selection of additional partners, such as landlords, to **ensure they align with project values and objectives**.