

Settlement for NYC Adult Home Residents with Mental Illness: How Does It Affect You?

WHAT IS THE SETTLEMENT?

On March 17, 2014, a federal court approved a settlement that affects adult home residents with serious mental illness. Adult home residents and the U.S. Department of Justice reached this settlement with New York State. All residents with serious mental illness in 23 New York City adult homes will have the opportunity to move to community housing if they qualify and want to move. Community housing will come with the appropriate support services residents want and need to succeed. The State will fund at least 2,000 units of supported housing for adult home residents, and more if needed.

WHAT IS CONSIDERED TO BE A "SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS"?

A serious mental illness affects a person's ability to do important things like work, concentrate, or sleep. Residents are considered to have a serious mental illness, for example, if they have received mental health services licensed by the Office of Mental Health in the past 2 years, or if they get SSI or SSD because of mental illness.

DOES THE SETTLEMENT REQUIRE ANY ADULT HOME TO CLOSE?

No. The settlement does not require any adult home to close. If an adult home closes for any reason, there is a process to make sure that all residents get other housing.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO MOVE UNDER THE SETTLEMENT?

Residents with serious mental illness in these New York City adult homes will be able to move to supported housing if they qualify and want to move:

Belle Harbor Manor Brooklyn Adult Care Center Central Assisted Living, LLC

Elm York LLC

Garden of Eden Home

Harbor Terrace Adult Home and Assisted Living

Kings Adult Care Center

Lakeside Manor Home for Adults Mermaid Manor Home for Adults New Gloria's Manor Home for Adults

New Haven Manor

Oceanview Manor Home for Adults

Park Inn Home

Parkview Home for Adults Queens Adult Care Center

Riverdale Manor Home for Adults

Rockaway Manor HFA

S.S. Cosmas and Damian Adult Home

WHAT IS SUPPORTED HOUSING?

Supported housing is an apartment in the community that comes with rent assistance and support services. Eligible individuals can live alone or with roommates. Support services can include visits from case managers and help with moving, health care, shopping, cleaning, medication, or personal care.

WHEN CAN RESIDENTS MOVE TO COMMUNITY HOUSING?

All eligible adult home residents should have the choice to move by July 2018. The first step is to meet with a housing provider. Housing providers started meeting with people in Queens and Brooklyn in 2014, and with people in Staten Island and Bronx in 2015. Housing providers will continue to meet with adult home residents who are interested in moving. If you want to move and have not met with a housing provider yet, you can call Mobilization for Justice's Adult Home Advocacy Project at 877-417-2427 for advice.

WHO HELPS RESIDENTS MOVE TO SUPPORTED HOUSING?

Supported housing providers can help residents move. Eligible residents will also be assigned a care manager to help them get ready to move. The care manager should contact the resident regularly to talk about what they need to do to prepare. Eligible residents should be able to visit supported housing units before choosing an apartment.

HAVE PEOPLE ALREADY MOVED UNDER THE SETTLEMENT?

Yes. Some residents of adult homes in Queens and Brooklyn have already moved to supported housing in the community. People will continue to move until all eligible residents who want to have moved.

WHAT IF SOMEONE TELLS A RESIDENT THAT THEY CAN'T MOVE OR ARE UNABLE TO LIVE MORE INDEPENDENTLY?

If you are an adult home resident being discouraged from seeking other housing, **call Mobilization for Justice's Adult Home Advocacy Project toll-free at 877-417-2427 for advice and assistance**.

WHO CAN I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

You may call Mobilization for Justice Legal Services, Inc.'s Adult Home Advocacy Project toll-free at 877-417-2427 Monday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

DISCLAIMER: This fact sheet gives general information for NYC residents; it is NOT legal advice.