



Transitional Housing Program – Wellesley Central Residences Inc.

Program & Services Information Package

Objective

The Transitional Housing Program (THP) aims to provide temporary supportive housing to individuals living with HIV/AIDS, to improve overall health, build life skills and support individuals to accomplish their housing goals. The Wellesley Central Residences Inc. (WCRI) recognizes and celebrates the diversity of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, transgender, queer, two-spirit, intersexed communities and will foster tolerance and acceptance of all communities living at the WCRI.

What is Transitional Housing?

The Transitional Housing Program (THP) assists individuals living with HIV/AIDS in finding suitable housing (and other services) through Intensive Case Management; addressing finances, health care, housing, social recreation and transportation. THP is a communal living environment. Communal spaces include Living Room / Dining Room, Kitchen, Computer Room and Laundry Facilities. There are 11 single occupancy bachelor units within the THP. Each unit contains a three-piece bathroom and is fully furnished with bed, linens, night table, dresser drawers and chair. Kitchenette features; a mini fridge, microwave, sink and cupboards. Clients will not be permitted to bring furniture/appliances into the THP and there are no storage facilities within the THP.

Upon move-in into the THP the client will be given an orientation into the THP which includes Communal Living Expectations, Program Rules and Program Orientation. A client of the THP will be responsible for attending mandatory weekly House Meetings and completing assigned chores. There are no overnight guests permitted into the THP and there is a guest policy that will be explained during Program Orientation.

The maximum occupancy in the THP is a nine month (9) period. The THP is staffed with one Support Worker twenty four hours a day, seven days a week.

All clients of the THP also receive services from a Community Support Worker from McEwan Housing and Support Services as a mandatory component of the Intensive Case Management service.

Who is eligible for Transitional Housing?

The program is for individuals living with HIV/AIDS (16 years of age or older) who are homeless and need support services and who need assistance searching for suitable housing. Applicants must have a stable medical condition or the appropriate supports in place to assist the applicant in maintaining independent living. Applicants should be suitable to communal living.

Applicants must be eligible according to the Social Housing Reform Act.

(http://www.toronto.ca/housing/social_housing/shra.htm)

If the above criteria are met, a Support Service Interview will be scheduled with the Case Coordinator of Sherbourne & Intake to assess if the applicant is eligible for Fife House services.

What Services are available?

- Intensive Case Management (see attached below)
- Access to 24 hour on-site qualified Support Workers who provide support services
- Access to 24 hour on-site Support Workers to assist with individual Intensive Case Management of goals and to ensure an individual Plan of Service (see attached for explanation) is created and followed
- Access to a McEwan House Community Support Worker who will assist with individual Intensive Case Management
- Access to Care Services (see attached below)
- Social / Recreation and support programs within the building



What is the cost?

- Rent – based on standard financial assessment for social housing (rent-geared-to-income)
- WCRI Fife House Care Services (see below) \$200.00
- Both costs are mandatory and must be paid in full before the move-in date

What is Case Management?

Intensive Case Management is structured from a strengths-based model. This means clients decide their own goals during Case Management meetings and staff assists them with completing their own self-determined goals. The only mandatory goal is to actively seeking appropriate housing. Case Management is broken into several sections that include; Financial, Health Care, Housing, Social Recreation and Transportation to name a few. As an option, Case Management meetings are open to any existing supports in the community or family that clients may have.

What is a Plan of Service?

A Plan of Service is created with input from the client prior to or upon move-in. The Plan of Service determines what kind of service you will require and receive from Fife House and other support service providers. The Plan of Service is separated into sections that include but are not limited to:

- Activities of daily Living
- Safety
- Care Services
- Legal
- Medications
- Appointments

This is a living document and can be updated on an as needed basis. Support Workers and the client must both sign off on the Plan of Service in order for it to be valid. A copy will be provided to the client for their personal records.

What is Care Services?

Monthly Care Service charges are held by Fife House and included in the total charges for occupancy for the Transitional Housing Program. Care Services are used for client's grocery shopping, communal laundry supplies, personal cleaning supplies and personal hygiene products.

Clients are given access to a portion of the Care Services weekly to purchase groceries, laundry supplies and hygiene products. Grocery shopping will be done once a week on one of the Three Level Systems used at the Transitional Housing Program. Any leftover money from one week of grocery shopping can be carried over to the next week. Remaining grocery money at the month end it will be used for communal supplies for the program.

The Three Level System used is separated into these three categories:

1. Fully Assisted shopping
2. Semi-independent grocery shopping
3. Fully independent grocery shopping

Care Services is a part of living in Fife House's THP supportive housing. Grocery shopping is a component of care services. All clients moving in will be assessed upon orientation and placed into a category of The Three Level System. Grocery shopping will be discussed in case management and will be part of the Plan of Service. Grocery times are decided on the Monday of each week by 11pm. If a client needs a reminder of this they need to inform staff before the Monday. If they have not spoken to staff by the end of Monday they will have their last grocery list on file picked up for them.