



Hope House of Milwaukee, Inc.

209 West Orchard - P.O. Box 04095
Milwaukee, WI 53204

Ending homelessness and creating healthy communities

MERCY HOUSING PROJECT

Mid Year Report: January 1 – December 31, 2012

Chronically homeless individuals face multiple burdens such as unstable living situations, inadequate inter-personal skills, and poor support networks. Research has demonstrated that housing linked with services is the only strategy that is successful in reducing homelessness. Hope House's newest collaboration is with Mercy Housing on the **Johnston Center Residences**. This 91 unit building opened during the summer of 2010 and is located at 13th and Wind Lake on the south side of Milwaukee. The Johnston Center Residences is dedicated to housing 41 chronically homeless individuals, and 50 Section 8 individuals who are determined to be at high risk of homelessness. Hope House provides 3 full-time on-site case managers to work with the clients. In addition, a unique and important characteristic to Johnston Center is 24 hour front desk coverage.

The population served in the Mercy Housing Project is chronically homeless men and women.

In 2012, a total of 43 chronically homeless singles were served by the Mercy Housing Project. There were 11 new singles and 10 discharges. The average length of stay at discharge was 525 days.

Demographically, 64% of the new intakes were African-American, and 36% were White. Issues other than homelessness faced by the new intakes include Mental Illness (64%), Alcohol Abuse (64%), Drug Abuse (55%), Physical Disabilities (18%), and HIV/AIDS (9%). Many of these clients faced multiple issues simultaneously.

PROGRAM GOALS, INDICATORS AND RESULTS

Program Goals, Indicators and Outcomes

The Mercy Housing Project offers immediate and interim services and programming with the intention of promoting long-term change in participants, measured as follows:

GOAL 1: TO INCREASE RESIDENTIAL STABILITY FOR PARTICIPANTS.

Indicator: *77% of the participants who enroll in the Mercy Housing Project will successfully maintain permanent housing for six months or longer.*

Results: *84% of the participants have successfully maintained permanent housing.*

GOAL 2: TO PROVIDE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR PARTICIPANTS.

Indicator: *75% of the Johnston Center residents will receive supportive services.*

Results: *100% of the participants received needed supportive services.*

SUCCESS STORY

Geoffrey* struggled with chronic homelessness and addiction, living on the streets, with friends, and in and out of shelters for 15 years. He finally found what he needed at the Johnston Center in June of 2012 and got his very own studio apartment. He worked with his on-site Case Manager to apply for and obtain social security benefits, enroll in recovery support programs, and follow up with needed medical care that is often a side effect of chronic homelessness. Geoffrey took advantage of all the resources and supportive services the Johnston Center offered, and can be found attending on-site personal development classes, brushing up on computer literacy skills, or just chatting with his Case Manager. Geoffrey has made us, and himself, very proud.

**Name changed for privacy.*