

Housing for Older Adults | Barriers and Options

Marty Hanlon
David Mariano

Why are we here?

- ▶ Because shelter is a basic necessity
- ▶ Because housing instability opens the door to elder abuse.
- ▶ Because people who are housing vulnerable are led to make decisions to trust in and rely on others for support

Housing Instability

- ▶ Financial and physical barriers to remaining in current housing

Financial Vulnerability

- ▶ Expense of home plus taxes exceeds 30% of income.
- ▶ Pressure of rising expenses
 - ▶ Food
 - ▶ Medical
 - ▶ Transportation
 - ▶ Utilities
 - ▶ Many others

Cost increases

- ▶ Rent
- ▶ Taxes
- ▶ Fees
- ▶ Renovations

Harmful Housing

- ▶ Housing that is detrimental to well-being
 - ▶ Inadequate or non-existent
 - ▶ Impacts mental or physical health
 - ▶ Poorly maintained
 - ▶ Unsanitary
 - ▶ Hoarding situation

Bath Inaccessible

- ▶ Cannot:
 - Get to bathing facilities (second floor)
 - Get into bathing facilities.
 - Stand in bathing facilities.
 - Turn water on/adjust.
 - Lather, rinse or reach all areas.
 - Use hands at all.

Physical Vulnerability

- ▶ Unable to perform Activities of Daily Living (ADL) due to physical limitations:
 - Toileting
 - Bathing
 - Eating
 - Dressing
 - Transferring

Physical Limitations to ADL's

- ▶ Locomotion
- ▶ Reach
- ▶ Dexterity
- ▶ Vision
- ▶ Hearing
- ▶ Cognition

Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL)

- ▶ Managing finances
- ▶ Handling transportation (driving or navigating public transit)
- ▶ Shopping
- ▶ Preparing meals
- ▶ Using the telephone and other communication devices
- ▶ Managing medications
- ▶ Housework and basic home maintenance

- ▶ Decisions to allow more people to intervene in order to assist older individuals age in place
- ▶ Go to a higher level of care.

Solutions?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Housing/Service Types

ONONDAGA COUNTY

Homeless Services

- ▶ **Shelters-General, Women's, Family, Mental Health**
- ▶ **SROs** (single room occupancy)- Longer term solution to shelters. Indiv. has own room and access to shared facilities.
- ▶ **Rapid rehousing programs/Transition Funding**- Assistance in locating housing and financial assistance (security deposit)
- ▶ **Supportive Apartments** – Agency owned apartments with skill building programs.

Congregate Care Facilities

- ▶ **Enriched Living**- Individual who cannot maintain independent housing in the community but do not require assisted living.
- ▶ **Assisted Living**- Assistance with ADLs, Medications, planned meals and nursing care as needed.
- ▶ **Skilled Nursing Facilities**- 24/7 complex medical care, assistance with ADLs/IADLs, planned meals, PT/OT, SLP

Subsidies

- ▶ **Eligibility Specific Subsidies**
 - ▶ HOPWA, HUDVASH
- ▶ **Subsidized Housing**
 - ▶ When the building or apartment itself is subsidized (does not follow the individual)
 - ▶ HUD funded properties, Senior Apartments, Income based, accessible apartments,
- ▶ **Community-based Subsidies**
 - ▶ The subsidy follows the person apartment to apartment (Section 8, HUD and Medicaid programs, grant based)

Housing Advocacy

- ▶ Syracuse Code Enforcement
- ▶ Eviction Legal Services
- ▶ Housing quality advocacy and legal services
