

With dignity, respect and compassion, we care for adults diagnosed with mental health disorders, including the homeless, by providing housing and the supportive services they need to live happier, healthier, more independent lives.

We are PLACES

Established as a not-for-profit corporation in 1988, PLACES employs 85 staff to operate three programs in Montgomery County, Ohio:

- **Residential Adult Care Facilities (since 1988)**
We provide housing and personal care services for adults diagnosed with severe mental health disorders.
- **Supportive Living Program (since 1995)**
We provide case management and life skills training for adults diagnosed with mental health disorders who are living in homes and apartments throughout Montgomery County or who are homeless.
- **Housing First Program (since 2004)**
We provide permanent housing and on-site supportive services for adults diagnosed with mental health disorders who are homeless.

The majority of our funding comes from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board for Montgomery County. The remainder comes from Montgomery County HOME funds, resident fees, tenant rents and contributions.

The staff members at PLACES collaborate with mental health agencies, homeless shelters and other community organizations to meet the needs of our residents, clients and tenants. Our goal is to help the people we serve realize their individual potential and gain more independence.

We want them to become more fully integrated into the community. That's why we go on outings like Dayton Dragons baseball games, Kings Island and camping trips. It's why we host a grand celebration at our December Holiday Party for residents, clients, tenants, their families and friends of PLACES. And it's the reason we hold our Annual Recognition Reception: to recognize those who have improved their lives by holding a job, going to school, volunteering in the community or taking bold, new steps toward recovery.

I invite you to learn more about PLACES.

Roy Craig, Executive Director



"Not all group homes are created equal. There's so much isolation at other homes. You'll find residents just sleeping or hanging out smoking. They're so disconnected; there's a feeling of hopelessness. We refer people to PLACES because they are recognized as being the best. There's more energy. Residents are more like a family. And the staff is really tuned in to residents' needs. They want them to have more, do more and be more a part of society – just have a better quality of life."

– Erika Bales, Community Psychiatric Support Specialist,
Eastway Behavioral Health Care Corporation



Consider a gift to PLACES and help the most vulnerable among us

Help PLACES care for adults diagnosed with mental health disorders, including the homeless

Your gift can be a direct donation to PLACES or a contribution to our endowment fund, the Heart and Home Legacy Society established through The Dayton Foundation. Either way, your gift will help us continue to provide the high level of housing and supportive services our residents, clients and tenants need to live happier, healthier, more independent lives.

By giving to the Heart and Home Legacy Society, you will help protect the future for our residents, clients and tenants and ensure that our quality programs are unaffected by government budget cuts. Our ultimate goal at PLACES is to reduce our dependence on public funding over time.

Talk to your financial advisor, or contact us today to make a planned charitable gift that may provide you with estate, gift or income tax benefits.

Giving options include:

- Bequest by will
- Life insurance
- Retirement funds
- Charitable remainder trusts
- Charitable lead trusts
- Charitable gift annuities

PLACES is a 501(c)(3) organization.
Contributions are tax deductible to
the fullest extent of the law.

"PLACES is well run administratively and functionally. The money is well handled and goes where it's supposed to go – to benefit the residents, clients and tenants, who need our understanding, care and protection. PLACES has done so much for them; they are better adjusted and more involved and in control of their day-to-day lives."

– Tom Randolph, retired attorney
and a former member of the
Board of Trustees for PLACES

Donate online at www.placesinc.org

For more information about PLACES or the
Heart and Home Legacy Society, contact us today



11 W. Monument Ave., 7th floor • Dayton, OH 45402
937.461.4300 • www.placesinc.org



PLACES

serves the most vulnerable among us

They could be your mother, your brother,
your sister, your child or your neighbor.

They have been diagnosed with
mental health disorders.

They may be homeless, and they often
have other serious challenges.

Residential Adult Care Facilities

We provide housing and personal care services for adults diagnosed with severe mental health disorders

PLACES operates four Adult Care Facilities throughout Montgomery County for 36 residents who are unable to live independently.

Our homes are safe, attractive, clean and well maintained; licensed by the Ohio Department of Health; and certified by the Ohio Department of Mental Health. They are staffed 24/7 by dedicated professionals who provide structure, supervision and support in a family atmosphere.

Residents receive services from local mental health agencies. By staying in close touch with healthcare providers, we meet our residents' needs for their physical and psychiatric care.

At PLACES, we care for the whole person. We cook nutritious meals, monitor medications and teach life skills. We assist with personal care and hygiene, and plan recreational activities such as bowling, parties and game days. We encourage physical exercise and social connections, and regularly transport residents within the community.

All residents receive individual attention and have personalized plans for their care. Every week each resident chooses an activity – such as dining out, shopping or simply going for a haircut – to enjoy with a member of our staff. And here every birthday is cause for a celebration.

Because of the care we provide, residents at PLACES become increasingly stable over time. They are less anxious. Their overall health and appearance improve. And they tend to be happier and have fewer hospitalizations and psychiatric problems than residents in other settings.

Many of our residents hold jobs, go to school or volunteer in the community. On average, three residents leave our Adult Care Facilities every year – often to live in independent housing.



Teresa has lived at Randolph House, a PLACES Adult Care Facility, since 1998. She enjoys baseball, bowling and rock-and-roll music.

"I like getting ice cream at United Dairy Farmers, and I like to go out with my boyfriend, Bill. We walk to Taco Bell. I like to take walks, rain or shine. I do my chores – I sweep and mop and clean my room. Everybody helps me here at PLACES. They cook our meals."



"We've seen a tremendous difference in Marty since he's been at PLACES. He used to wish he was dead – and he doesn't say that anymore. Now he's in a structured environment and has to follow a routine. He has certain chores to do, like his washing, and that's good for him. It makes him feel important because he's doing something constructive. He interacts with the people who live there; he loves to play cards and checkers. He's aware that the people at PLACES are watching out for him."

– Elizabeth (Gerry) Maxton, whose brother, Marty, lives in a PLACES Adult Care Facility

Supportive Living Program

We provide case management and life skills training for adults diagnosed with mental health disorders who are living in homes and apartments throughout Montgomery County or who are homeless

Adults with mental health disorders who are able to live on their own often need support to improve their skills and maintain their independence. PLACES provides case management and life skills training to approximately 150 Supportive Living Program clients throughout the year. Our services empower these individuals to learn new skills and accept more responsibility so they can maintain their housing, avoid homelessness and improve their quality of life.

Clients may need help remembering to take their medications, staying clean and sober, managing their money, seeking employment, preparing meals, maintaining a household, keeping appointments, finding transportation, making social connections or locating services in the community. All clients have access to the social and recreational activities PLACES provides.

Based on their individual needs, clients can be seen as often as necessary. PLACES staff members are trained to recognize problems early so clients can receive the appropriate interventions before a physical, social or behavioral issue becomes critical.

The goal is to help clients develop their community living skills so they no longer need intensive assistance. Some clients develop these skills quickly; others require more time before they can graduate from the program. Each year 30 to 40 individuals reach their goals and graduate. PLACES celebrates these accomplishments at our Annual Recognition Reception in February.

By collaborating with other service providers, we ensure all our clients' needs are met. One example of this collaboration is PLACES' leadership of Opening Doors for the Homeless, a program that helps homeless individuals with mental health diagnoses access services in Montgomery County.

Kerfina struggled with mental health disorders and received services from the PLACES Supportive Living Program for a year. He attended recovery meetings, graduated from the program and now takes classes at Sinclair Community College.

"It was a blessing that my PLACES Advisor came along. I don't know if I would have gotten out of the shelters if she hadn't helped me find a place to live and furnishings for my apartment. She reached out and got me involved in the activities at PLACES. And since I am a recovering alcoholic and addict, she would take me to those meetings. She was always checking up on me; it made me feel like somebody cared.

"PLACES motivated me to go back to school, and I've been making A's and B's. That really opened people's eyes. With my degree I want to help people – maybe do social work. I may become a preacher. My life has changed because of PLACES."



Housing First Program

We provide permanent housing and on-site supportive services for adults diagnosed with mental health disorders who are homeless

PLACES serves the immediate needs of homeless adults suffering from mental health disorders by providing "housing first" – and offering supportive services second. PLACES currently provides independent, furnished apartments to 26 formerly homeless adults in three locations throughout Montgomery County. All locations are convenient to commercial areas and public transportation.

The goal of Housing First is to provide a safe, stable residence that allows tenants – many with substance abuse problems, criminal records and no income – to start planning for their futures. Transformation can begin as soon as a tenant moves in. Within the first hour, some tenants shave and shower. Others begin their laundry or cook for themselves. Some enjoy a first night of sleep in their own beds.

All three Housing First locations are staffed 24/7 by trained, professional PLACES staff who can help tenants acquire skills to maintain their housing and secure an income. Tenants can receive these services by working with a case manager to create an individual plan. They can learn how to cook, launder and keep house again; how to obtain social services and medical care; and how to access recovery programs. Tenants may decide to enter treatment, find job training or employment, reconnect with their families or make other long-deferred plans.

The occupancy rate for PLACES' three Housing First facilities exceeds 99 percent. That's because most homeless individuals are eager for a permanent home and want to stay. Without PLACES providing permanent supportive housing to these individuals – who were sick and living with little food and no medication – it's likely some of them would have died on the streets.

Henry spent 28 years homeless and on the streets. While in drug rehabilitation he met Mike, a PLACES Case Manager, who helped him get an apartment through PLACES' Housing First Program. Today Henry is a motivational speaker at PROJECT C.U.R.E., INC., a non-profit drug rehabilitation program, and sponsors recovering addicts through Narcotics Anonymous. He enjoys fishing and reading and is also a barber.

"Being an addict from the streets, I didn't trust nobody. Learning to trust is like learning to walk all over again. But Mike showed me he was a man of his word. He brought me a long way and made me feel better about myself."

"Staying clean and sober is a 24-hour-a-day job, but the people at PLACES helped me step by step. They said, 'Henry, it's up to you. You can go back on the streets or stay here. What do you choose?' I didn't think I could do it because I'd been on the streets for so long. But I wanted some peace of mind. I was tired of living that life."

"PLACES showed me what love is about: caring about other people. I'm not the guy I was yesterday. Yesterday I didn't care nothing about living. I want to live today."

