



D A S H

DISTRICT ALLIANCE FOR SAFE HOUSING

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT DASH HOUSING

Q: When does DASH plan to open its housing program?

A: In early 2009 DASH will provide 36-units of co-located emergency and transitional housing.

Q: Where will the 36-unit building be located?

A: DASH's housing programs are in discrete locations in the District of Columbia.

Q: What will the eligibility requirements be for DASH's co-located emergency and transitional housing?

A: A woman must have a history of domestic violence; be homeless or at risk of homelessness due to domestic violence; and not present a danger to herself or others.

Q: Will DASH operate a 24-hour crisis hotline?

A: No, but once our emergency and transitional housing program is in operation, we will have an intake line that will be accessible 24 hours a day.

Q: Will you admit boys over the age of 12 and women without children?

A: Yes .

Q: Will you admit women who are addicted to substances?

A: DASH recognizes the link between addiction and enduring domestic violence. Thus, there is no clean time requirement for entry to the DASH housing programs. DASH has an Addictions Specialist on staff to train and support program advocates in helping women work towards sobriety. Linkages will be made for women to programs like Ramona's Way to ensure that they have full community support and services.

Q: Will you admit women who have a mental illness?

A: DASH will accept women with a mental illness if they are not a threat to themselves or others. DASH has a Clinical Specialist on staff to train and support program

advocates in conducting full assessments and making linkages to mental health programs to ensure that residents have full community support and services.

Q: Will you admit women who are Deaf or have physical disabilities?

A: Yes, DASH is implementing elements of universal design in the development of the emergency and transitional housing program so that a large portion of the units will be accessible to women and children who use wheelchairs and all units will be equipped for people who are Deaf, hard of hearing or with visual disabilities.

Q: Will your programs be open to the LGBTQI community?

A: Our residential programs are accessible to women and those who live their lives as women. Our Housing Resource Center will provide resources and support to all victims of domestic violence.

Q: Will your program be accessible to immigrant women?

A: DASH is committed to hiring bi-lingual advocates and working collaboratively with the immigrant community to provide culturally competent services and referrals. DASH does not require documentation of citizenship status in order for women and children to receive services.

Q: How long can women stay in the housing program?

A: Residents can stay in DASH's housing program for a total of up to two years.

Q: Do survivors need to wait until 2009 when the co-located transitional and emergency housing is open in order to receive support from DASH?

A: Not at all. In October 2007 DASH will begin its Housing Resource Center, a clearinghouse for housing information and resources for victims seeking safe housing and for service providers seeking housing for their clients. There will be a strong web based component, the Housing Resource Center Online, where updated housing resources and information on navigating the housing system will be made available. DASH's Housing Resource Specialist will provide on-going training for survivors and service providers on unearthing safe, affordable housing options.

Q: Will the Housing Resource Specialist provide case management?

A: No, we will be providing information and resources to leverage the housing advocacy that case managers and social service providers already do. Our Housing Resource Specialist will be available by phone to trouble shoot with providers on particularly challenging cases and disseminate current housing resources and information.

If you have any other questions, please call us at 202-462-3274 or send us an email at info@dashdc.org.