



Housing Categories and Definitions

John R. Kasich, Governor
Mark Hurst, M.D., Director

Promoting Wellness and Recovery

December 2018

Housing is a cornerstone to recovery for individuals with mental illness and substance use disorders. These definitions are set forth by OhioMHAS for OhioMHAS housing as a framework for policies, programs, funding and data collection. OhioMHAS recognizes that local systems may have their own definitions as well as federal or state funding sources may also have definitions to define housing types. It is not our intention to replace or to supersede existing housing definitions.

There are four categories of housing which have several types of housing or residential placement under each.

1. Permanent Housing
2. Residential Care
3. Time-Limited/ Temporary
4. Residential Treatment

1. Permanent Housing

A housing setting located in the community of the individual's choice that may be scattered site or a single site housing complex. Services and supports are not mandatory. May have some expectations which are agreed upon within the lease, if included in the housing setting. Supports can be on-site or off-site depending on individual need and specific setting. Length of stay is determined by the lease and individual, not a program.

- o **Private Apartments** — Apartments or housing within the community with a private landlord. May or may not have a HUD Section 8 voucher or Housing Choice Voucher (Section 811 is another example). Housing is not connected to local behavioral health system, although individuals may receive outpatient services (i.e. case manager, medication management, etc).
- o **Permanent supportive housing (PSH)** — Provides access both to affordable housing and to a flexible and comprehensive array of supportive services designed to help tenants achieve and sustain housing stability and to move toward recovery. Housing is covered by Ohio tenant landlord law. PSH is an evidence-based practice for people with mental illness and is typically defined by the following features:
 - Tenant households execute lease (or sub-lease) agreements with the same rights and responsibilities as other households renting housing in the community;
 - Supportive services are readily available to tenants, are designed to promote housing stability and include access to crisis services 24 hours a day, seven days a week;
 - Supportive services are flexible and individualized, adjusted to meet the tenants' evolving needs and preferences;
 - On-going participation in supportive services is not required for tenants to retain their housing; and
 - Access to the housing opportunity and the services are not time-limited.
- o **Recovery Residence** — A recovery residence is an alcohol and drug-free living environment with various levels of recovery-based services such as peer support, employment assistance, and community/house meetings. Program rules may be applicable to all residents to provide structure, however, a standard tenant-landlord lease also applies. Treatment services may be received on site and billed separately by a service provider. Homes are agency or owner operated with various levels of staffing. Residents often live in a family-like, congregate setting. Recovery Housing is defined by the following features:
 - ☒ Level 1: Peer-led, democratically run homes that include community/house meetings, on-site and off-site support groups and outside clinical services. There is no on-site paid staff. Generally, these are single family residences.

- ☒ Level 2: Homes that include a structured, peer accountable, and highly supportive setting. Resident involvement in clinical treatment services are available and encouraged. These are primarily single-family residences, but can include other types of dwellings. This living environment must include at least one staff position.
- ☒ Level 3: This highly structured setting offers supervised living and qualified staff that are connected to a larger, often clinical, organization. Support services include life skill development such as budgeting and employment skills. Community providers may offer services on-site for residents. Peer support and recovery action planning are still the central focus of support.

2. Residential Care

A Congregate or shared living setting that includes room, board, and personal care as part of resident fees. Depending on residents' level of functioning and care needs, this setting may have 24/7 staffing, and assistance with activities of daily living. Services are included and delivered as defined in license. A resident agreement that includes participation in services may be applicable. Residential Care is owned and operated by a private owner or provider agency.

This housing setting may or may not be long-term more permanent housing depending on level of care needed for the individual. Reasons for this placement level of care are more environmental in nature than psychiatric. This type of housing is licensed and is not subject to tenant landlord law but does require a resident agreement.

- o **Child Residential Care/Group Home** — A congregate living environment licensed by a county or state department to provide care to children or adolescents. Child Residential Care/Group Homes may provide supervision, social services and accommodations, but treatment services are provided separately and service intensity will vary from resident to resident. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) are the primary state regulatory agencies for these programs.
- o **Residential Facility** — A congregate living environment that provides supervised care to individuals 18 years and older. Includes room and board and may or may not include personal care or mental health services. This setting may also provide supervision, social services and accommodations, but treatment services are provided separately and service intensity will vary from resident to resident. This setting may or may not be a long-term more permanent housing depending on level of care needed for the resident. Residential Facilities are divided into Class 1, Class 2 and Class 3. The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services licenses these homes:
 - ☒ Class 1: Provides accommodations, supervision, personal care services, and mental health services for one or more unrelated adults with mental illness or one or more unrelated children or adolescents with severe emotional disturbances. Owned/operated by a Behavioral Health Agency. **Please see description under Residential Treatment.**
 - ☒ Class 2: Provides accommodations, supervision, and personal care services to any of the following:
 1. One or two unrelated persons with mental illness
 2. One or two unrelated adults who are receiving residential state supplement payments; or
 3. Three to sixteen unrelated adults.
 - ☒ Class 3: Provides room and board for five or more unrelated adults with mental illness.



- o **Residential Care Facility/Assisted Living** — A home or facility that provides either of the following:
 - 1) Accommodations for 17 or more unrelated individuals and supervision and personal care services for three or more of those individuals who are dependent on the services of others by reason of age or physical or mental impairment;
 - 2) Accommodations for three or more unrelated individuals, supervision and personal care services for at least three of those individuals who are dependent on the services of others by reason of age or physical or mental impairment, and, to at least one of those individuals, supervision of special diets or application of dressings or provide for the administration of medication to residents to the extent authorized.

The Ohio Department of Health licenses these homes/facilities.

- o **Licensed DODD Facility** — Refers to any Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities licensed group home or community facility/residential facility (that is not an ACF-IID) where supervision, services and/or accommodations are provided for persons with developmental disabilities.

3. Time-Limited/Temporary

A short-term setting that can include room, board, and/or personal care and supports. A setting that provides support needed for an identified length of stay per the program or agreement. The intention is for residents to return to their previous housing setting or get a break from their current housing. Most often, treatment and/or services are part of facility rules. This setting is not intended as a permanent housing environment. This setting is not subject to tenant landlord law and would not meet Home and Community Based settings.

- o **Foster Care (Adult or Child)** — Living situations in which a client resides with a non-related family or person in that person's home for the purpose of receiving care, supervision, assistance and accommodations. Treatment services are billed separately. Licensed through the State.
- o **Homeless Emergency Shelter** — Provides temporary residence for homeless individuals and families.
- o **Respite Care** — Short-term environment which may or may not be 24 hours care. Reasons for this type of care are more environmental in nature. May provide supervision, services and accommodations. Treatment services are billed separately.
- o **Temporary Housing** — Acute non-hospital, time limited residential program with an expected length of occupancy and goals to transition to permanent housing. Includes room and board with referral and access to treatment services that are billed separately.
- o **Transitional Housing** — Time-limited, usually connected to a program with a completion time-frame. Services and supports required as part of the program.



4. Residential Treatment

A facility/program that is staffed 24 hours a day/seven days a week and provides room, board, personal care and clinical services on-site as part of the treatment stay. Admission to the facility/program is determined by clinical/medical need. Facility is owned and operated by a certified provider agency for the clinical/medical services provided on-site and may be affiliated with or within an inpatient continuum. This type of housing is licensed and is not subject to tenant landlord law.

- o **Crisis Care** — Provision of short-term care to stabilize a person experiencing a psychiatric emergency. Offered as an alternative to inpatient psychiatric unit. Staff 24 hours a day/seven days a week. Treatment services are billed separately.
- o **Detox** — A drug treatment modality that includes 24 hour medically supervised detoxification followed by ongoing treatment. Patients reside at the treatment center.
- o **Residential Facility Class 1 (Residential Treatment Mental Health)** — Provides room and board, personal care and certified mental health services to one or more adults, or children or adolescents. Admission into the facility is determined by clinical/medical need. Provider is licensed and certified by OhioMHAS. This is not a long-term placement as clinical services are on-site. **Please see description under Residential Care.**
- o **Recovery Residence Level IV (Residential Treatment Substance Use)** — Level IV residences include more structure and are supervised by paid professional staff that are connected to a larger, often clinical, organization. Treatment services are received on-site and billed separately, if applicable. The provider is licensed and certified by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.