



St. Catherine's Center for Children

St. Catherine's Center for Children provides a comprehensive range of human services designed to offer hope, foster growth, and improve the lives of the children and families we serve.

Who Are We?



St. Catherine's is a publicly funded, not-for-profit human services agency. We are a haven for hope, offering services, treatment, and education for our community's most at-risk children and families in order to heal and preserve family life.



Current Agency Services

- Comprehensive homeless services for families and adults
- Residential services for children 5-13
- Foster care services
- Day treatment/Special education elementary school
- Community-based and prevention services



Marillac Homeless Family Program

- Funded through the Office of Temporary Assistance and Albany County Department of Social Services
- Emergency shelter for 24 families
- Case management
- Supported employment
- On-site childcare/transportation/recreation

Permanent Supportive Housing and Project Connect



Permanent Supportive Housing:

- HUD funded for the chronically homeless
- Serious mental illness and/or substance abuse
- Scattered sites in Albany/Columbia counties
 - Albany County-houses 12 families/7 singles
 - Columbia County-houses 4 families/4 singles

Project Connect:

- Funded through a 3-year Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant
- Outreach and engagement to homeless individuals
- Houses 30 single chronically homeless individuals per year



Project HOST

- Healthy Outcomes through Supportive Transitions (HOST)
- NYS Department of Health funded since 2015 (MRT)
- Houses and provides case management for 29 homeless/unstably housed individuals at scattered sites
- Primary focus: decrease Medicaid costs and improve health outcomes
- Serves high users of crisis services, including those who struggle with severe mental health, substance abuse and/or chronic illnesses



Outreach and Engagement

- Based on evidence-based practices, including: *Housing First, Motivational Interviewing, Critical Time Intervention, Supported Employment, Harm Reduction, and SOAR, (SSI/SSDI, Outreach, Access and Recovery)*
- Client driven service delivery
- Street outreach
- Engaging community resources and contacts
 - Medicaid/Health Homes
 - Shelters
 - Emergency rooms and police
 - Mental Health Units
 - Detox



How Project Host Addresses Social Determinants of Health



Health and Healthcare

- Health Homes/Care Coordination
- Managed Care Organizations
 - CDPHP
 - Fidelis
- Hospitals
- Program Services Coordinating Committee (PSCC)

Economic Stability



- 29 highly vulnerable individuals currently housed
- Supported Employment Case Manager offers employment assistance
- Staff are trained in the SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR) model
- Albany and Rensselaer County Departments of Social Services secure mainstream benefits (housing allowance, food stamps and Medicaid)

Social and Community Context



- Peer Support Services connecting clients to support groups, Drop in Centers
- Clients participate in focus groups to share their story to educate and raise awareness of homelessness, mental illness and addiction.
- Client engagement activities
 - Annual summer cookout
 - Thanksgiving
 - Breakfast with Albany Medical Center
 - Coat drive
 - Client participation in event panels



Neighborhood and Environment

- Secure safe, affordable and stable housing
- Encourage healthy foods & eating (i.e. Price Chopper partnership)
- Crime & Violence
 - Albany PD Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)
 - Albany PD Neighborhood Engagement Unit



Project HOST Outcomes

- Currently serving 30 individuals over two counties (Albany and Rensselaer)
- 61 individuals served to date
- 67% decrease in ED visits
- 56% decrease in inpatient days

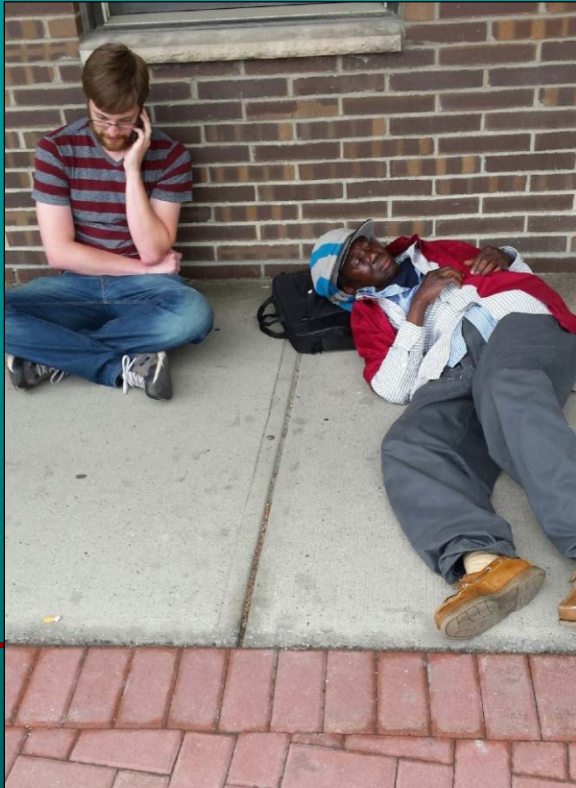
One client profile



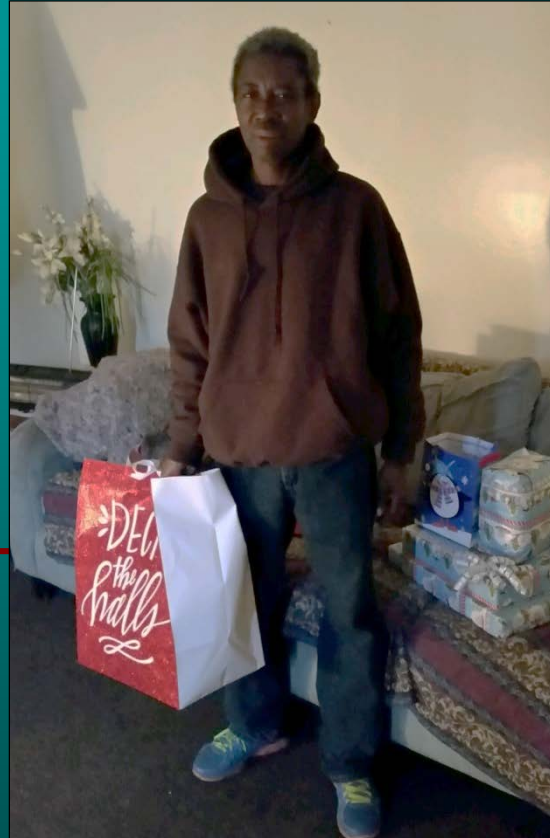
- Emergency room visits in the year prior to housing: **160**
 - Lived and slept on the streets of Albany's South End
- Active warrant and constant Albany Police Department contact
- Vision and gastro medical issues
- Cognitive limitations
- Little to no informal support structures in place
- History of substance abuse/ alcoholism
- Emergency room visits in the year after housing placement: **20**

A story of hope.....

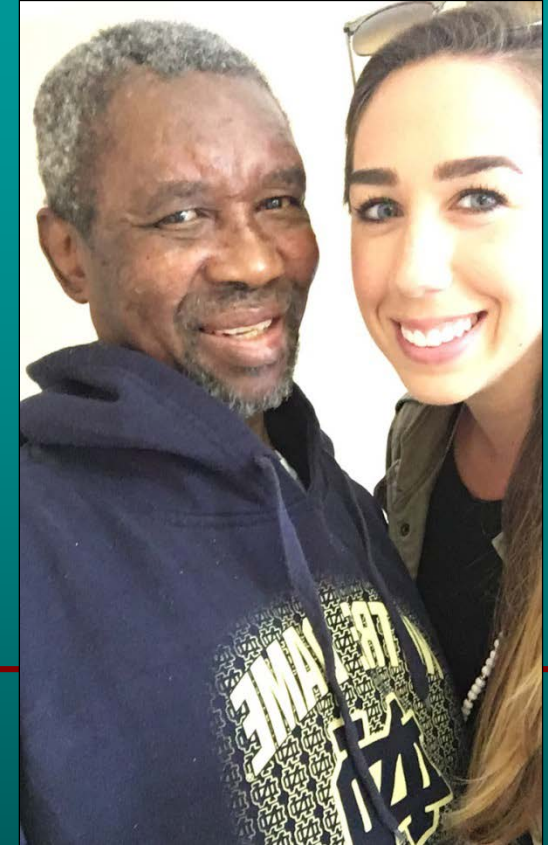
Phil's Story



Philip and case manager Will on South Pearl Street in Albany. (May 2105)



Philip in his Albany apartment with Christmas presents donated by CPHP (December 2105)



Philip visiting with case manager Shannon at the Rehabilitation and Nursing Center (August 2017)



**Some of the people who
help make it all happen!**



St. Catherine's Center for Children

Contact Information for Homeless Services

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