



Barrier Free Living is opening 50 units of Family Supportive Housing and 70 units of single's Supportive Housing in Early 2015

50 Family units, 19 one-bedroom apartments (for one parent and one child) and 31 two-bedroom apartments (for one parent with two-three children) should be available for occupancy by March.

70 Studio units will be available around the same time with 1/3 of those units devoted to single victims of domestic violence.

All family apartments are being developed under the New York/New York III category of family with a head of household with "a disabling medical condition." The definition covers parents with disabilities, parents with chronic medical conditions which would compromise the ability of a family to live independently in the community and parents with a mental health condition that does not rise to the level of severely and Persistently Mentally Ill.

For singles, the category is the first, SPMI. There needs to be documentation of a mental health diagnosis that fits the SPMI

Here is the OMH Definition that could apply:

Serious and Persistent Mental Illness

In order to be considered an adult with a serious and persistent mental illness, "the following is necessary:

- Designated Mental Illness

The individual is 18 years of age or older and currently meets the criteria for a DSM-IV psychiatric diagnosis other than alcohol or drug disorders, organic brain syndromes, developmental disabilities or social conditions. ICD-CM psychiatric categories and codes that do not have an equivalent in DSM-IV are also included mental illness diagnoses.

And

- SSI or SSDI due to Mental Illness
The individual is currently enrolled in SSI/SSDI due to a designated mental illness.

Or

- Extended Impairment in Functioning due to Mental Illness
 - Documentation that the individual has experienced two of the following four functional limitations due to a designated mental illness over the past 12 months on a continuous or intermittent basis:
 - Marked difficulties in self-care (personal hygiene, diet, clothing avoiding injuries, securing health care or complying with medical advice).
 - Marked restriction of activities of daily living (maintaining a residence, using transportation, day to day money management, accessing community services).
 - Marked difficulties in maintaining social functioning (establishing and maintaining social relationships, interpersonal interactions with primary partner, children or other family members, friends, neighbors, social skills, compliance with social norms, appropriate use of leisure time).
 - Frequent deficiencies of concentration, persistence or pace resulting in failure to complete tasks in a timely manner (ability to complete tasks commonly found in work settings or in structured activities that take place in home or school settings, individuals may exhibit limitations in these areas when they repeatedly are unable to complete simple tasks within an established time period, make frequent errors in tasks, or require assistance in the completion of tasks).

PTSD, Chronic Depression or Anxiety that have lasted over two years would qualify as SPMI

Prospective residents must first obtain approval for supportive housing:

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING APPLICATION AND REFERRAL PROCESS

- **Fill out HRA 2010e. For families, the category is the second one after indicating a family application. We are working under the category “Head of Household with a disabling Medical Condition.”**
- **Transmit application on-line to HRA-CAS**
- **Eligibility Determination usually given within 3 business days when package is complete.**
- **Log into HRA’s Web site (PACT web) to view /print application and HRA Determination Letter.**
- **If you have HRA 2010e questions call HRA at 929-221-4500 or 929-221-4515**
- **If you have application questions and need to speak to a housing consultant call 212-801-3333**
Website: www.CUCS.ORG

Send approval documentation to info@bflnyc.org with your contact information. A staff member will be in touch with you for the next steps in the process.

60% of the apartments will have Project based Section 8. We can reserve apartments for families for two months prior to the building obtaining a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy. START THE APPROVAL PROCESS NOW!

For further information about the program, go to <http://www.bfnyc.org/programs-services/supportive-housing/>