



Federation of Organizations Announces Residential Program NYC 1515 Reaches Full Capacity



May 2018--Federation of Organizations is pleased to announce that as of March 2018, they have reached full capacity for their NYC 1515 program. NYC 1515 is a collaborative program through the Department of Health & Mental Hygiene that provides housing to homeless or long-term shelter residents.

Federation's team searched relentlessly to find quality apartments that are affordable and can accommodate mobility issues, which in NYC can be quite a challenge. This was a team effort, with intense collaboration by Federation, the Department of Mental Health and Hygiene and the Human Resources Administration (HRA).

With 45 beds total in Brooklyn and the Bronx, the program has reached full capacity in only six months.

"Some people had been in shelters for ten-plus years or living in a train station," said Eric Schatzel, Associate Director of Federation's Supportive Scattered Site Housing. "These individuals were not used to receiving help, but we worked hard to build trusting relationships with our staff."

In addition to providing housing for individuals who are homeless, Schatzel said that there were the day-to-day realities of matching people up with suitable housemates and helping everyone acclimate to their new surroundings. For many individuals, it was a big adjustment just to know they had a place to go home to every day.

Federation is also providing much-needed support to help these individuals focus on their recovery. The Supportive Housing Teams provide linkages to medical and behavioral health services and drug/alcohol treatment, help people learn to manage their symptoms, access personal care attendants, and pursue employment, among many other services.

"Federation has provided a lot of care and support along the way," said Schatzel, who emphasized the importance of housing with regard to recovery. "Housing is a bridge to recovery. If you don't have stable housing, how can you focus on your goals and your recovery?"

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