

Richards Place Program Description

Our shelter is named for Richard Wellwood, one of the most effective consumer advocates ever and founder of JIMHO. We have developed a homeless to housing program run by, and for, mental health consumers.

We house a maximum of seven homeless individuals. We take clients by referral, mostly from our local crisis services/partial hospitalization program, called Bridges. Individuals are also taken on the request of other JIMHO programs.

The shelter operates from 4 pm until 8am the next day. Individuals are required to be out of the shelter during the day. Meals, laundry supplies and, hygiene supplies, all bedding, and a place for residents to secure their belongings are provided to all residents, free of charge.

We employ 4 part time employees. We are implementing the training of staff to provide Certified Peer Support Services to all the residents of the shelter. This will be a more formal enhancement of the role model guidance we already provide.

Initially residents have a 21 day stay. Attaining housing can often be a lengthy process, so as long as the individual is following their action plan toward housing, extensions are granted on a weekly basis.

We aim to move clients from homelessness to housing, instead of another stop in a homeless shelter, with a stay too short to accomplish the lengthy processes that must be completed to gain permanent housing.

Ending homelessness, and giving people the tools to hold on to their permanent housing, is our main objective at Richard's Place.