



Are you a community service provider who works with people in need of housing assistance?
The Olmstead Housing Subsidy program can help!

The Olmstead Housing Subsidy (OHS) is a rental subsidy program funded by the New York State Department of Health Medicaid Redesign Team and administered by the New York Association on Independent Living. Eligible participants must meet the following program requirements:

- Be age 55 or older OR be age 18 or older with a documented chronic disability.
- Be enrolled in Medicaid.
- Meet nursing home level of care as determined by the Uniform Assessment System for New York (UAS-NY).
- Be living in a nursing home, or be homeless or unstably housed.
- Have spent at least one hundred and twenty (120) consecutive days in a nursing home over the most recent two-year period.
- Have the ability to live safely in the community.

Participants are free to choose any housing that meets the requirements of the program. The housing is not limited to units located in subsidized housing projects, such as senior housing.

A Housing Specialist (HS) from a local Independent Living Center is assigned to each participant in the program. The HS will assist individuals in many ways, from enrollment in the program to follow-up after the move. The HS will work

with participants to locate housing in the community of their choice, complete an inspection of the rental unit to ensure health and safety standards are met, maintain monthly contact with the participant, and re-inspect the unit annually. The HS acts as a liaison between landlords and participants to ensure success of the program.

Participants will be required to pay 30% of their monthly income, less allowances, towards rent. The OHS program will subsidize the remainder, up to the local Fair Market Rent set by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). In conjunction with rental subsidies, funding for Community Transition Services (CTS) is also available. It includes security deposits, moving expenses, utility start-up payments, household establishment purchases, etc.

Participants are required to sign an annual lease with their landlord and apply for the Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) when it becomes available in their area.

If you believe you serve people who may qualify for the program, please contact the New York Association on Independent Living at **518-465-4650** or visit us at www.ilny.org/programs/ohs for more information.



Do you need help paying for housing? The Olmstead Housing Subsidy (OHS) program may be for you!

OHS helps people pay their rent so they can live independently in the community. You may be eligible for this program if you:

- Currently live in a nursing home and wish to move into the community
- Have lived in a nursing home in the past 2 years and are homeless or unstably housed
- Are enrolled in Medicaid

There are Housing Specialists located at Independent Living Centers throughout the state ready to assist you with locating affordable and accessible housing in an area where you want to live. Housing Specialists will work with you to ensure that you have what you need to be successful in the community. You will be required to pay a portion of your rent based upon your income and expenses. There are also funds available to help you settle into your new home. The program will help you pay for things like security deposits, moving expenses, and basic furnishings.

If you are interested in learning more about the program, contact the Housing Specialist in your area. To find the Housing Specialist closest to you, please contact the New York Association on Independent Living at **518-465-4650** or visit us at **www.ilny.org/programs/ohs** for more information.

