

How YOU Can Help

People living with HIV want to live independently but the high demands of their medical needs, their sometimes chaotic lifestyle and their low income prevent them from being able to do this successfully on their own.

You can help to support The Open Door in many ways:

- Donate tax deductible money (checks to "The Open Door, Inc." or on line at www.opendoorhousing.org)
- Donate kitchen ware, food, furniture, household goods and bed linens
- Donate your time and labor
- Volunteer skilled labor such a plumbing, electrical and carpentry work
- Volunteer to cook or to donate supplies for group meals
- Tell your friends about us so they can get involved

About The Open Door

The Open Door, Inc is a Pittsburgh, PA based non-profit 501(c) company dedicated to providing affordable, safe and supportive housing for chronically homeless, high risk HIV+ individuals currently living in poverty.

The Open Door provides housing for individuals that are not eligible for more traditional housing programs, and we welcome high risk individuals, including those with substance use, mental health and criminal backgrounds.

We recognize that peer monitors are keys to success. They provide medication adherence supports, housing supports and assistance, outpatient substance use supports as well as individual and group level peer counseling.

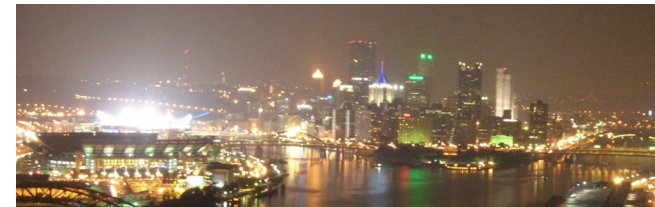


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**Providing supportive housing to
high risk, chronically homeless
people living with HIV**



Our Mission

The mission of The Open Door is to provide a supportive housing program that improves the health of the forgotten population of high risk, chronically homeless people living with HIV.

What The Open Door Does

- Provides supportive housing and independent living for people living with HIV
- Empowers residents to live independently and improve their health and quality of life
- Provides housing for individuals that are not eligible for more traditional housing programs due to high risk issues such as substance use, mental health and criminal backgrounds
- Follows a housing first model and harm reduction approach
- Helps residents take a positive and functional role in their own lives including attending to their medical needs and increasing their independence

Need for Help

- People Living with HIV represent a disproportionate number of people living with a mental health or substance use issue and have a higher incidence of incarceration.
- People living with HIV are not accepted into community personal care homes or skilled nursing facilities.
- People living with HIV have a high level of medication management.
- People living with HIV face housing discrimination.

How Housing Helps



- For people living with HIV/AIDS, research has shown that consistent and stable housing leads to improved access to health care, on-going engagement in care, and treatment success.
- People receiving practical housing assistance are almost four times more likely to enter into medical care than those who do not get housing assistance.

- A change in housing status is strongly associated with a change in at-risk behavior.

Our Success

- All residents have experienced significant improvement in their lives:
 - Major decreases in their viral load and increases in their CD4 count
 - Built a sense of community and helped residents to learn they are not alone in this illness
 - Developed a peer support system
 - Increased the self esteem of residents
 - Decreased use of substances significantly or, in some cases, 100% abstinence
 - Dramatic improvement in adherence to treatment plans
 - A number of resident have found employment

The Open Door Needs Your Help!