

CCUSA's Healthy Housing Initiative

A person-centered, comprehensive approach to address chronic homelessness

Catholic Charities Eastern Washington: Schweitzer Haven

“Having an actual foundation and stability still is an amazing thing to realize every day when I wake up.”
-Brian G. Beatriz and Ed Schweitzer Haven resident



For people experiencing homelessness in Spokane, there is no one-size-fits-all solution. Some people need shelter, others need help securing a steady income, and some need help overcoming addiction. But for so many people, the solution can be surprisingly simple: provide a home.

Catholic Charities Haven apartments provide an off-ramp from homelessness to a wide range of our neighbors, from families with children to chronically homeless individuals who have been on the streets the longest.

While this year has been unlike any other, Catholic Charities Eastern Washington stands by its promise to continue building forever homes for people in need. This year, we opened our newest permanent supportive housing complex, Beatriz and Ed Schweitzer Haven. Schweitzer Haven (SH) is a 50-unit apartment building for individuals who have experienced chronic homelessness.



Permanent Supportive Housing is not just about a roof over someone's head, but also about the wraparound services that are provided to empower residents to continue their path towards wellness and stability. Our housing models are successful because of the everyday dedication of professionals who work in our buildings day and night (even in the midst of a global pandemic) to support our residents.

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Here's what that looks like at SH:

- **Property Managers** are responsible for the day-to-day management of the property, including maintenance oversight, tenant screening, leasing, rent collection, fiscal management, funder compliance reporting, and complying with all Federal, State and local laws and regulations.
- **Resident service coordinators (RSCs)** arrange community activities and bring services onsite. The RSCs give residents the chance to build community in a safe environment. Residents get to know and trust the RSCs and can ask for help as they become ready to move forward in their lives.
- **Case managers** support residents by identifying their housing and employment goals and overcoming barriers to achieving them. Depending on their area of expertise, case managers connect residents with social services, help them reenter the workforce, or provide counseling mental health and substance-use disorders.
- **Maintenance technicians** keep SH clean so residents can be proud of their homes. They play a key role in creating an environment where residents can make positive life changes.
- **Resident services** meet the needs of the whole person, helping each client take the steps they need to achieve stability in their housing.

When people are in a crisis, everything depends on housing. We build housing using public financing and Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC). The tax credit program allows corporations and individuals to invest in affordable housing, deferring future tax liability. Tax credits will allow us to continue to meet Eastern Washington's need for housing without donations from local supporters.

We are building housing so every individual and family that needs it has a warm, dry and solid foundation for dignity and hope.