

PPN Housing Seminar

Housing issues for people with disabilities/ mental health difficulties

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Housing and Mental Health in Ireland

- * 15% of those with a disability (incl. Mental Health difficulty) living in social housing compared with 10% general population.
- * More MH service users living with parent or in supported accommodation as % of general population.
- * Individuals with greater need for housing support:
 1. Long stay in-patients
 2. Discharged long-stay service users
 3. New long-stay service user
 4. Severe and complex MH problems
 5. New service users with less severe symptoms living at home

Housing and the Clubhouse Model

- * Standard # 29. The Clubhouse is committed to securing a range of choices of safe, decent and affordable housing including independent living opportunities for all members.
- * The Clubhouse has access to opportunities that meet these criteria, or if unavailable, the Clubhouse develops its own housing program.
- * Clubhouse housing programs meet the following basic criteria.
 - a. Members and staff manage the program together.
 - b. Members who live there do so by choice.
 - c. Members choose the location of their housing and their roommates.
 - d. Policies and procedures are developed in a manner consistent with the rest of the Clubhouse culture.
 - e. The level of support increases or decreases in response to the changing needs of the member.
 - f. Members and staff actively reach out to help members keep their housing, especially during periods of hospitalisation.

Mental Health & Housing

Relevant Strategies & Documents

- * A Vision For Change (2006)
- * National Housing Strategy for People With Disabilities (2011)
- * Addressing the Housing Needs of People With Mental Health Difficulties (HSE 2012)
- * Social Housing and People With Mental Health Difficulties (NDA 2013)
- * Rebuilding Ireland: Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness (2016)

Common Themes

- * Location
- * Safety and security
- * Size and sharing
- * Facilities available
- * Special Needs

Common Supports Required

- * Resettlement
- * Household maintenance
- * Managing finances
- * Advocacy and advice
- * Personal safety and security support
- * Emotional support
- * Peer support
- * Training/ education/ employment support

Supports Available

- * Community Mental Health Teams incl. Social Worker.
- * Housing Bodies incl. Housing Agency
- * Local Authorities
- * Disability Advocates incl. IAN and Citizen's Info
- * Housing Co-ordinator for Mental Health