

Providence Alaska House FAQs

Q: What is Providence Alaska House?

A: Providence Alaska House will be a supportive housing and recuperative care (SHARC) program in midtown Anchorage available for low-income people aged 55 and older experiencing homelessness. The facility will include 45 permanent supportive housing units and six recuperative care units.

Q: Is Providence Alaska House a health care facility?

A: Providence House Alaska is not a licensed health care facility. It includes permanent supportive housing apartments for extremely low-income seniors experiencing homelessness. The facility also includes recuperative care units for people experiencing homelessness to utilize by referral after being discharged from the hospital. The recuperative care units are available for both short-term respite and long-term recovery needs based on hospital recommendation.

Q: What is the Supportive Housing and Recuperative Care model of care?

A: The Supportive Housing and Recuperative Care model, or SHARC, is an innovative new housing model. Providence developed SHARC for patients experiencing homelessness who don't have a place to safely recover and heal after their hospital stay. A key goal of recuperative care is to prepare participants to transition into permanent supportive housing.

The recuperative care units are located inside Providence's supportive housing building and are leased by a hospital, in this case Providence Alaska Medical Center. The hospital will discharge eligible patients directly to these units.

While recuperative care isn't a licensed medical facility, participants staying in these units are connected with a primary care provider who delivers ongoing care and can order skilled home health providers as needed during their recovery.

Q: Is there a limit on how long participants may stay in recuperative care?

A: Participants may stay for a short respite of up to 10 days or a longer recuperative care stay of up to six months depending on their needs and their provider's recommendations

Q: Do participants have to pay to stay in the recuperative care units?

A: No, the units are leased by Providence Alaska Medical Center and at no cost to the participant.

Q: How is Providence Alaska House different than an assisted living facility?

A: Supportive Housing does not employ any medical staff and is therefore different from assisted living. An on-site Service Coordinator is available to help residents access services they may need as they age in place. Residents who need assistance with activities of daily living like meal preparation, bathing, transportation, or other services may have a caregiver providing support. Providence recuperative care units don't employ medical staff either. An on-site service provider will assess non-medical social services needs and work with participants on an individualized plan to address those needs. Services might include connection to benefit programs, mental or behavioral health care, chemical dependency treatment, meal programs, legal services, transportation and other support. Recuperative care

participants will be connected to a primary care provider who may prescribe home health or other medical services.

Q: Who is eligible to live in the permanent apartments at Providence Alaska House?

A: The 45 permanent supportive housing apartments will be available to people aged 55 and older who qualify as extremely low income per federal or state calculations.

Q: How can people apply to live at Providence Alaska House?

A: Applications for supportive housing apartments will be available on the Providence website. The housing program is scheduled to begin accepting applications in Spring 2024. We will post an announcement on this webpage once we have a specific date when we will start accepting applications.

Q: When will Providence Alaska House open to residents and recuperative care participants?

A: The building is scheduled to open in Summer 2024.