

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING SPOTLIGHT

New York State Department of Health

Medicaid Redesign Team Supportive Housing

The Medicaid Redesign Team (MRT) Supportive Housing Initiative was developed to address the social determinants of health. Programs provide supportive housing to high-need Medicaid participants through rental subsidies, supportive housing services, and capital projects.

Senior Supportive Housing Services



Senior Supportive Housing Services (SSHS) serve participants who are 65 and older, who require nursing home level of care, and are either transferring out of an institution or at risk of being institutionalized or homeless. SSHS gives participants access to community resources that enhance overall health, and includes behavioral and mental health services, health and wellness workshops, and mobile supportive team units. Services that promote housing retention, language access, empowerment, education, and peer support also ensure housing stability and support the health and well-being of participants.

Supportive Services Reunite Family in Yonkers

Mr. and Mrs. H. is a couple who desperately wished to be living under the same roof again, as they had before Mrs. H. was placed in a nursing home over six years ago.

After being referred to Family Service Society of Yonkers (FSSY) by the Guardianship Program, Mrs. H. received a visit in her nursing home from her Guardianship Care Manager and staff from FSSY Westchester Senior Supportive Housing Services Program (WSSHSP). Accordingly, they also met with Mr. H. at his apartment. Funded by the MRT Supportive Housing Initiative, WSSHSP provided service coordination, transition services and community linkages necessary for Mrs. H. to move safely back into her home.

There was a communication barrier, so interpretation services were needed to ensure accurate and timely interaction between Mr. H., the nursing home, and Managed Long-term Care (MLTC) staff. Mr. H. had to prove himself to be a reliable caregiver for his wife before she could be released to live safely at home.



Mr. & Mrs. H. reunited with help from FSSY

With Mrs. H.'s permission, FSSY WSSHSP obtained documentation confirming that Mr. H. was fully able and willing to tend to Mrs. H.'s fragile medical and mental health conditions. They then assisted him with the Department of Motor Vehicles; by providing the nursing home with his driving record, the facility could be assured that Mrs. H. would be safe as a passenger in his vehicle.

Before Mrs. H. could be moved, FSSY WSSHSP also helped with the safety and accessibility of the couple's apartment by offering suggestions for cleaning, arranging furniture and minimizing clutter. After four different Managed Long Term Care (MLTC) Plan assessments, the right MLTC Plan was identified and appropriate home care services were arranged. Mrs. H. was finally discharged and allowed to be back in her home with her husband.