

PERMANENT HOUSING CASE STUDY



Title: Briermost Foundation, North Royalton, Ohio, Recovery Housing for Women

Property Name: Ellsworth Acres

Basic Description: New construction and rehabilitation, single-family recovery home, 3,400 sq. ft. with seven bedrooms, three bathrooms, two family rooms

Developer: Briermost Foundation

Property Management: Briermost Foundation

Service Provider: Numerous community partners, including Briermost Foundation

Tenant Profile: Women in recovery – approximately 30% of whom are homeless

Service Approach: Services are provided onsite and include a mixture of support related to recovery and practical management of the farm. The project is considered level II in the National Association of Recovery Residence (NARR) standards. This means that the project relies heavily on internal peer support (with a house manager) and utilizes other services such as treatment and benefits from external providers and agencies. There are no time limits in which a resident can live at the recovery house. The homes having varying levels of support and structure depending on each woman's needs. All house managers are certified peer support workers. Each resident is accompanied by either a house manager or another senior resident for the first two weeks whenever they leave the project (with certain exceptions). There is a heavy emphasis of practical teaching from one tenant to another that includes using local transport, integrating with local health services, building community-based relationships and accessing benefits. There is an 18-point recovery wellness plan that is followed, addressing everything from identification to psychiatry.

Project Background:

There was a significant need for recovery housing in North Royalton, Ohio – an area of the state that, prior to Ellsworth Acres, did not have recovery housing for women in early sobriety. Specifically, few treatment facilities across the entire county work with women who are prescribed medication assisted treatment (MAT). As a result of this unmet need, numerous partners came together – the Briermost Foundation's Board of Directors, Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services and Cuyahoga County Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Board – to build out the vision for Ellsworth Acres.

Key Features and Impact:

- Houses eight tenants and one onsite manager
- Utilization of 3 ½ acres to develop an innovative workforce training farm for tenants
- Program is expanding into the community and offering unique classes to raise money, including participation at local farmer markets, yoga classes, and full moon ceremonies.

FINANCING INFORMATION

Development Budget

Funding Source	Amount Received
Cuyahoga County Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Board	\$100,000
Private Donations	\$26,000
Total	\$126,000

Operations Budget

Funding Source	Amount Received
Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services	\$210,000
Total	\$210,000

DEVELOPER PROFILE

The Briermost Foundation's mission is to provide safe, sober and supportive housing to women in recovery from drugs and alcohol and provide purpose in living through learning and training opportunities. They are deeply committed to treating people with respect and dignity as they learn to live sober. The Briermost Foundation assists in transitioning to life after exiting an addiction treatment center or completing detoxification, guiding each tenant to sober events, 12 step retreats, meetings and entertainment; strengthening interpersonal skills by practicing self-respect and self-acceptance, and providing referrals for intensive outpatient treatment, mental health assessments or training services.

PROJECT PICTURES



The development of each case study featured was made possible by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Rural Capacity Building Program.

"Connecting Communities at the Intersection of Housing & Health"

Collaborative Solutions, Inc.
P.O. Box 130159
Birmingham, AL 35213
(205) 939-0411
www.collaborative-solutions.net