

James A. Blatt
121 N. 8th Street
Allentown, PA 18101

Allentown Bureau of Planning and Zoning
435 Hamilton St.
Allentown, PA 18101

March 4, 2015

To whom it may concern:

I write to voice my support for this council's approval of the proposed move of the Halfway Home of the Lehigh Valley (HHLV) currently at 119-121 N. 8th Street to the Veterans' Sanctuary located at 24 S. 5th Street. The Halfway Home is unobtrusive and not a nuisance in any way to the local community, which it serves. Its clients are obligated by its program to complete daily chores and to keep safe and sanitary housing conditions. There is zero tolerance for drugs including alcohol.

The HHLV is a work or volunteer program. The proposed property provides an upgrade in resources and space to both the clients and staff. Additionally, the proposed property is located in essentially the same neighborhood as the old quarters – the Allentown City Center – which is a mixed business and residential district that shuts down at night like to how the HHLV already does and will.

The HHLV provides transitional living to persons in recovery from drug and alcohol addiction. It serves primarily those leaving prisons or inpatient rehabilitation facilities and in need of support to establish or reestablish themselves in society with supervised, graduated, and structured reentry. The HHLV staff run a tight ship and have a proven record of serving the needs of the Lehigh Valley community where we all reside.

It is for these reasons I ask this council to vote to permit the relocation of the HHLV.

Sincerely,

/s/

James A. Blatt