

Gude Drive Complex - Project Fact Sheet

600 East Gude Drive, Rockville, MD 20850

A collaborative public-private partnership to improve housing facilities and supportive services to homeless men in Montgomery County, Maryland



About Montgomery County's Homeless:

On any given day in our community, there are over 1100 people experiencing homelessness, including 500 single adult men. Seventy-two percent (72%) of homeless adults in Montgomery County have at least one disability (e.g. mental illness, substance abuse, development disability, chronic health condition). Twenty-six percent (26%) of homeless adults in Montgomery County work but cannot afford housing.¹

Programs for the Homeless at the Gude Drive Complex:

1. **Adrienne's Safe Havens - Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless (MCCH)** is a low-demand transitional housing program for 15 homeless men with chronic mental illness who are generally not successful in other shelter and group living environments. Safe Havens provides a comfortable and non-threatening environment that offers case management and counseling, life skills training, weekly on-site psychiatric services, and connection to medical care, vocational training, day treatment programs and other appropriate community resources. This MCCH program has been at Gude Drive since 1996. The ultimate goal of the program is to help clients transition to a more independent, permanent, and healthy living situation.
2. **Chase Partnership House - Community Ministries of Rockville** provides transitional housing services for 36 homeless men in recovery who have disabilities, including mental illnesses and substance abuse. The program helps the men progress through individual treatment programs into mainstream society and has been in operation since 1987. Along with basic

¹ Statistics taken from the 2008 Homeless Enumeration of the Metropolitan Washington Region report produced by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

residential services, each resident receives case management services and participates in a rehabilitative program which consists of intense day treatment, 12-step meetings, life skills groups, dual diagnosis education groups, and relapse prevention groups. A computer lab helps clients with GED preparation, employment preparation, and resume writing. Chase also includes seasonal therapeutic recreation programs designed to help clients manage the various stressors of life while improving their general health.

- 3. Home Builders Care Assessment Center - MCCH** provides 24 hours a day, 7 days a week shelter for men experiencing homelessness. The facility serves approximately 900 men over the course of a year. Emergency shelter for homeless men has been provided at Gude Drive since the early 1990s. Residents have access to basic amenities such as showers, beds, laundry and dining facilities. The facility also offers a variety of supportive services to help residents exit homelessness more quickly, including: thorough assessments, case management, vocational counseling and job training, health education classes, in-house 12-step meetings, and medical services.

About the Improvement Project:

- **Addition to the Home Builders Care Assessment Center** (3,780 sq. ft. addition to existing 5,800 sq. ft building) Since the building's original construction by Home Builders Care Foundation eight years ago, demand for shelter and comprehensive services for homeless individuals has increased dramatically. The capacity of the original building was 100 men. An additional 35 men were served by an on-site trailer. The addition provides space for a range of new on-site services including new laundry, bathroom and shower facilities, two medical exam rooms, and a meeting space and computer lab for educational and vocational activities. The on-site trailer that served as overflow sleeping space for 35 men has been closed, and there are now 35 new beds in the HBCAC building. Winchester Homes acted as Home Builders Care Foundation's builder captain for the addition.
- **New Shared Facilities Building** (14,520 sq. ft.) A second new building has been constructed to house Adrienne's Safe Havens, the Chase Partnership House, and offices for MCCH services and staff. Prior to the new construction, housing and services for both programs were delivered in substandard buildings onsite. In addition to providing transitional shelter for 51 men, the new building features offices for staff, two dining rooms, two life skills kitchens, two computer labs, laundry and bathroom facilities, conference rooms, and lounges.

Collaborative Partners:

- Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless (MCCH)
- Community Ministries of Rockville
- Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
- Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs (DHCA)
- Home Builders Care Foundation (HBCF)
- Winchester Homes
- Housing Opportunities & Concepts
- Forrester Construction Company
- JSA Inc. Architects and Planners
- Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development
- US. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Support Received From: Montgomery County Departments of Environmental Protection, Finance, General Services, Permitting Services, and Technology Services; Montgomery County Office of the County Attorney; and Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service.

Funding Sources (construction and furnishings):

- Montgomery County Housing Initiative Fund (HIF) – \$5,500,000
- Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development – Community Development Administration - Shelter and Transitional Housing Facilities Grant Program \$600,000
- Home Builders Care Foundation (in-kind) – \$300,000
- U.S. HUD - Emergency Shelter Grants Program – \$134,000
- DHHS - Montgomery Cares Program \$88,000

