

I went through many years of drug addiction, and was finally getting my life back together when there was an electrical fire in my apartment, and I found myself homeless. One rainy day, I was on the street with nowhere to go, and I ended up at the Dutchess County Coalition for the Homeless overnight shelter, where I was able to spend the night. I submitted an application for Hillcrest House, and was interviewed by one of the case managers.

Getting a room at Hillcrest House was such a blessing.

I used my time there as a foundation to start getting my life back on track again.

While staying at Hillcrest House, I started volunteering at the shelter. I would go to the screening site and do intakes with people looking for a bed for the night.

Not long after, I applied for a job there, and was hired as a housekeeper.

In 2006, I received a Section 8 certificate and moved into my own apartment. I have lived there for over two years now. I don't think I would have been able to do any of this without the help of Hudson River Housing. The program really helped me be able to go out and be successful on my own.

Clarice Parker
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