

Plymouth Housing FAQ

What Is Permanent Supportive Housing?

Permanent supportive housing (PSH) is a proven, cost-effective, and compassionate housing model that Plymouth uses to help people out of homelessness. By “permanent,” we mean that there is no time limit on our housing. By “supportive,” we mean that we offer services that help our residents thrive, such as counseling, substance use treatment, and nursing. By “housing” we mean that Plymouth is not a shelter — after individuals are approved to move in, they are no longer considered homeless. In fact, more than 95% of our residents stay permanently housed after moving to Plymouth.

Do Plymouth Residents Sign a Lease?

Yes. Like anyone who rents their home, our residents have rights and responsibilities under Washington State Landlord-Tenant Law. Residents pay 30% of their income toward subsidized rent and need to follow their lease and building rules — such as respecting quiet hours and adhering to a robust guest policy.

For residents who have no income upon move-in, Plymouth will pay the minimum rent payment for 12 months, or until they become connected to an income source. These residents still sign a lease and are bound to the same rules and regulations as residents with income.

How Does Plymouth Address Safety in its Buildings?

Our buildings are staffed 24/7 to provide support for our residents and an affirmative presence for the neighborhood. We create a welcoming environment by keeping public areas monitored, clean, and well lit. Plymouth staff are given the tools and training they need to work with residents to solve problems. When necessary, we work with law enforcement partners to address safety concerns.

All visitors must check in at the front desk, including service providers and other Plymouth staff members. Plymouth staff must identify themselves by wearing their badge. Front desk staff tracks who come and go, and if needed, establish guest bans.

Will Residents Undergo a Background Check?

Plymouth screens for sex offenses in line with Seattle's [Fair Change Housing Ordinance](#). In addition, King County Housing Authority and Seattle Housing Authority conduct background checks. They may screen out lifetime registered sex offenders and individuals with certain past drug-related convictions.

Is Harm Reduction Effective?

Yes. Housing First provides housing without requiring sobriety — because a safe, stable home is the first step to achieving recovery from substance use disorder and other challenges. Through our [harm reduction approach](#), we provide a variety of opportunities for people to work toward recovery from substance use disorders — including incentive programs, peer counseling, and more. Plymouth uses [the best practices](#) in the medical and behavioral health fields to help people achieve a greater degree of health and well-being.

Our residents have rights, and that includes the privacy of living freely and acting freely in their own home. Like any other apartment building, we are not permitted to drug test our residents.

What Is It Like to Have Plymouth as a Neighbor?

Plymouth strives to be a good neighbor for our community and our residents. Our 24/7 front desk staffing means that residents can always access support and that Plymouth staff are available to watch and respond to incidents in the neighborhood. We get to know our neighbors and contribute to community groups, both during building development and once our residents and staff move in.

We are committed to supporting the neighborhoods around our buildings. Our residents are part of your community – just like anyone else.