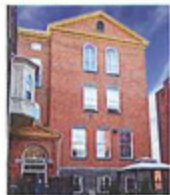


Outstanding Residence of the Year

St. Peter's Residence

Catholic Charities Housing Office of Albany



Not only will a formerly homeless resident find a home and a welcoming community at Catholic Charities Housing Office of Albany's (CCHO) St. Peter's Residence (St. Pete's); he might land a job as well. Apart from one professional case manager, every staff member at St. Pete's—from the cooks to the resident assistants and the weekend staff—are formerly homeless tenants.

St. Pete's "Empowerment Employees," as well as its other tenants, take it upon themselves to care for each other. That's just part of the culture at St. Pete's, which, despite being the only housing on a block now lined with offices and empty former church buildings, is filled with life.

Designed by Lammon Architects in partnership with General Contractor John Bishop, the 41-unit SRO underwent a transformation from a parochial grammar school (circa 1884) to an SRO in 1988. Since then, it has been home to many of the City of Troy's and County of Rensselaer's neediest citizens. St. Pete's was funded by NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assis-

tance's (OTDA) Homeless Housing and Assistance Program (HHAP) and HUD's McKinney-Vento Supportive Housing Program with additional funding from local sources, private donors, and foundations. Operations and service funding is provided through OTDA's SRO Support Services Program.

St. Pete's provides on-site case management, a low cost food program, 24-hour emergency staffing, self help and support groups, social/recreational opportunities and skill-building activities including on-the-job training. Many former St. Pete's staff members obtain gainful employment outside the residence.

In 2006, HHAP funded a \$3.9 million renovation that includes a new elevator, new handicap accessible bathrooms, and central air conditioning.

The unique sense of ownership that tenants have toward St. Pete's, combined with the environment of respect, tolerance and caring fostered by the community, distinguish St. Pete's as an Outstanding Residence of the Year.

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