

A Place to Call Home: How Outreach and Affordable Housing Changed Naomi's Life

Story provided by: Chester County Department of Community Development



Naomi was first connected with the **Street Outreach** Team in 2022. Over the next three years, she experienced two periods of homelessness totaling 727 days, often sleeping in her car.

Even when the team temporarily lost contact with Naomi in early 2024, they never gave up. They continued coordinating with providers and searching for ways to support her. In July 2024, they found her living in her car and in poor physical and emotional condition.

Through their persistent advocacy and support, Naomi was able to secure stable housing. In April 2025, she signed a lease on a one-bedroom apartment in a senior living community, developed through **Low-Income Housing Tax Credits** and **HOME Investment Partnerships Program** funding, where she is finally safe, stable, and has a place to call home.

**Name changed for privacy reasons*

What is the Program(s) that Helped?

Street Outreach is funded mainly through the federal **Continuum of Care (CoC)** Program, which supports outreach staff and services for people living unsheltered. The goal is to build trust, provide basic support, and connect people to housing and services.

The **HOME Investment Partnerships Program** is a federal program that helps low-income families afford safe, stable housing. It provides funding for building, buying, or rehabilitating homes, and can help with down payments, closing costs, or rental assistance.

Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) is the main federal tool for building affordable rental housing for low- and moderate-income families. It gives tax credits to developers who set aside apartments at affordable rents.

What are we Asking Congress?

We call on Congress to fully fund all HUD housing, community development, and homeless assistance programs to prevent currently served families from losing their homes.

