



January 1, 2024

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Supportive Housing Provider Association Member:

Supportive housing is not just about providing shelter; it is about giving individuals and families a chance to rebuild their lives, find stability, and regain their sense of worth. It is about empowering those who have faced adversity and offering them a lifeline towards a brighter future.

Each one of us has the power to make a difference, no matter how big or small our contributions may be. By coming together, we are not only acknowledging the challenges faced by those in need, but also demonstrating our unwavering belief in the potential to succeed.

Let us challenge the status quo and think outside the box, so that we can pave the way for innovative solutions that will transform lives. Let us remember that every person we help find a safe and stable home is an individual who can contribute positively to our communities.

As we embark on a new year, we must take the time to reflect on all that we have been able to achieve as a collective over the past year.

A lot has happened at SHPA over the past year, none more significant than our successful advocacy for the following:

2023 Policy & Budget Accomplishments:

➤ **Passage of HB2831 – Homelessness Task Force**

- In 2023, SHPA led the efforts towards the passage of HB2831, with overwhelming bi-partisan support, that which codifies into law the Interagency Task Force on Homelessness, Community Advisory Council, position of Homelessness Chief, and the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness created through Executive Order by Governor Pritzker, in September 2021 permanent. We are so grateful to Governor Pritzker, his administration, and members of the General Assembly for their commitment to ending homelessness in Illinois.

- **Increase of Supportive Housing Service Funding to a total of \$ 49,033,021 million**
 - \$6.5M increase supportive housing services budget line-item representing a 10% COLA and funds to support new Supportive Housing units throughout Illinois.
- **\$200M to the Home Illinois budget an increase of \$85M in General Revenue Funds**
 - This funding makes possible the maintenance and expansion of Supportive Housing, Emergency & Transition Housing, Homeless Prevention, Homeless Youth, Diversion programs and many more initiatives towards support of Home Illinois: Illinois' State Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.
- **Continued funding for Supportive Housing programs created through the State & Fiscal American Rescue Plan**
- **Continued funding for the Housing is Recovery Pilot Program**

Other 2023 accomplishments:

Last year SHPA was pleased to announce the partnership with the Illinois Office to Prevent and End Homelessness creating the **Illinois Homelessness Community Education and Technical Assistance Center**.

In 2023 SHPA was able to facilitate the launch of more than 10 project initiatives including:

- Mapping Access to Housing
- Public Housing and Transition Sustainability
- Medicaid Capacity Building Cohort
- Peer Leadership Development Workshops
- Rural 100 Day Challenge & Strategy Report
- Illinois State Police – Law Enforcement Guidebook to Homelessness
- Homeless Prevention Dashboard
- Data Quality Initiative
- Community Advisory Council Youth Subcommittee
- Inaugural Home Illinois Summit

In 2024 SHPA has plans to continue many of these initiatives while adding projects such as:

- Mainstream Benefits Training Series
- Unsheltered 100 Day Challenge
- Statewide Shelter Facility Assessment
- Cairo Housing Stability Study
- Supportive Housing Map
- Evicted Exhibit Tour
- Low Barrier Shelter Training
- System Integration for New Arrivals
- and more.

We will also be launching a page on our website dedicated to these initiatives.

What to look for in 2024:

2024 Policy & Budget Priorities:

- **\$2.5 million COLA increase for current supportive housing grantees**
- **\$1 million for supportive housing services for new projects**
- **\$ 7.5 million for HUD/CoC supplemental service funding**
- **Increase allowable administrative cost reimbursement from 15%-20%**
- **Timely Contract Execution**
- **Prompt Contract Payment**
 - for more details on these priorities visit SHPA's website at www.shpa-il.org.
- Continuing to advance SHPA's strategic planning activities advancing initiatives for supportive housing development and supportive services and furthering organization/board development
- Hosting Regional Storytelling Workshops for Person's with Lived Experience
- Providing Emergency & Permanent Supportive Housing Workshops
- Implementing the 2024 Training Series, Training Tuesdays, and Learning Wednesdays
- Continued partnerships with fellow advocates on state issues concerning Affordable Housing Development, Homeless Services, Human Services, Workforce Improvements, and so much more.

Our members are the reasons for our success. We have always, and will always, stand shoulder to shoulder with our members, offering support and assistance. Additional benefits are:

- 1) The opportunity to drive our advocacy agenda by voting on SHPA's Legislative Priorities,
- 2) The opportunity to shape our day-to-day work by participating on one of our standing committees,
- 3) The ability to Participate in SHPA trainings for FREE and reduced rates for SHPA events,
- 4) The ability to join a network of providers from across the state of Illinois.

Attached is SHPA's Membership Application/Agreement. If you need and invoice please contact Mary Palmer at info@shpa-il.org.

We look forward to working with you in the year ahead. If you have any questions, please contact David Esposito at 217-321-2476 x2 or via e-mail at d.esposito@shpa-il.org.

Sincerely,

David Esposito
David Esposito
Executive Director

Lore Baker
Lore Baker
Board President



Membership Contact Form

Name of Organization:

Address:

Name of Executive Director/CEO:

Phone:

Email:

Name of Accounting/Financial Contact:

Phone:

Email:

Name of Housing Contact:

Phone:

Email:

Name of Social Services Contact:

Phone:

Email:

Additional Contacts: (name and e-mail)

Total Organization Budget \$ _____

Total Supportive Housing Budget \$ _____ (if applicable)

Are you a Certified Medicaid Billing Agency? Yes No



Membership Agreement (page 1 of 2)

Please sign the membership agreement and send to the address listed below.

The Supportive Housing Providers Association exists to advocate for issues that will increase and strengthen the supply of supportive housing, to provide a forum for members to discuss their experiences, and to increase the effectiveness of its members through the dissemination of information.

I understand that if my organization is accepted as a member of the Supportive Housing Providers Association that membership carries certain privileges and responsibilities.

The privileges and benefits of membership include:

1. Legislative advocates working regularly on behalf of SHPA members and periodic strategic advice for developing and nurturing relationships with legislators.
2. Ability to vote on major legislative/policy issues and priorities which guides SHPA's advocacy efforts.
3. Timely knowledge for Call to Action or Action Alerts and necessary materials, such as letter templates or call scripts pertaining to important legislation that impacts supportive housing and residents.
4. Forum for information sharing on the current financial and political environment for developing supportive housing.
5. Benefits of networking with providers of supportive housing from across the state and sharing of best practices at semi-annual associations meetings and regional workshops at least 2x per year.
6. Benefits of broader network of members and affiliates, such as Healthcare Systems, Landlords & Developers, Managed Care Organizations
7. Free or discounted attendance at regional workshops that could include CEU credits for further staff development.
8. Access to any studies or educational materials developed by or shared with SHPA for educating legislators and the public regarding supportive housing.
9. Robust Resident Leadership Program to assist residents in their advocacy development and Scholarships to attend the Annual Resident Conference Annual and Spring Association meetings, and other local and national conferences as budget allows.
10. Electronic Peer to Peer program to share ideas, discuss challenges, and information sharing as needed.

The responsibilities of membership include:

1. Agreeing to maintain confidentiality and trust which will enable members to discuss their projects in an environment which is not threatening to their organization's viability.
2. Agreeing to share honestly with other members your experience so that all members can learn from it to improve their projects.
3. Agreeing to pay annual dues according to the sliding scale below for membership in the Supportive Housing Providers Association.

4. Membership meeting attendance whenever possible.
5. Participation in major SHPA advocacy campaigns through calls, letters, or visits to legislators.

Supportive Housing provider agencies dues are based on the size of your organizational budget as follows:

- Supportive Housing Providers with a budget of:
 - \$ 0 to \$ 250,000 pay annual dues of \$ 500
 - \$ 250,001 to \$ 500,000 pay annual dues of \$ 850
 - \$ 500,001 to \$1 million pay annual dues of \$ 1,750
 - \$ 1 million to \$5 million pay annual dues of \$ 2,300
 - Over \$5 million pay annual dues of \$ 2,500
- Developers, Property Owners, Landlords pay an annual due amount of \$750
- Not-for-Profit Organizations desiring to team, align, join in, ally or band together with the association \$ 500 (limited membership benefits)
- Continua of Care pay annual dues of \$ 100
- For Profit business or entity operating to make profit and/or has a scope outside of social services and interested in participating in SHPA activities; pay annual dues of \$ 750 with additional sponsorship opportunities available. (limited membership benefits)

Failure to meet the responsibilities of membership can result in loss of membership in the organization and the forfeiture of all dues paid. Membership in SHPA does not constitute the automatic endorsement by SHPA of the applying organization's activities. By signing my name to this document, I agree that if my organization is chosen for membership, we will abide by the responsibilities outlined above:

Signed: _____ Date: _____
CEO/Executive Director

Print: _____
CEO/Executive Director

Please return completed membership agreement & membership dues to:

Supportive Housing Providers Association (SHPA)
6 Lawrence Square Springfield, IL. 62704
Attention: Mary Palmer Email: mpalmer@firminc.com