

DC DEPARTMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA DISTRICT BOWSER, MAYOR



Agenda

Low Barrier Shelter vs. Bridge Housing **Bridge Housing Program Overview Mariam's Kitchen Project Timeline** What's Next?

Low Barrier vs. Bridge Housing





Bridge Housing

Bridge Housing offers temporary housing solutions to individuals focusing on bridging the gap from homelessness toward permanent housing.

- Coordinated Access: Admission is based on defined categories through a coordinated assessment and housing placement process (CAHP).
- Case Management: Participation in case management is required.
- Private Rooms: Two-person suites with bathrooms provide more privacy than low-barrier shelters.
- Timely Transitions: Built-in timelines ensure residents move toward permanent housing.
- Inclusive Services: Serves men, women, and non-conforming individuals.
- Mayor's Goal: Supports efforts to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring.



Program Overview

DHS is focused on the following services for adults aged 18 or older:

- Anticipated Length of Stay: 3 10 Months | Client Services: Intensive case management
- Provider Selection: Mariam's Kitchen

Focus:

- Adults in need of respite care
- Adults best served in non-congregate Bridge Housing settings
- Unsheltered adults, including those living in encampments
- Adults requiring specialty beds



Mariam's Kitchen

Mariam's Kitchen (MK) meets clients where they are by building trust, guiding them through housing, and continuing support after move-in to ensure stability while coordinating with landlords and service providers!

Housing Programs at Miriam's Kitchen

- 325 residents receive wraparound services.
- 99% housing stability after the first year.
- Permanent Supportive Housing includes: Housing subsidy voucher & Dedicated case manager

Case Management Services

- Health & wellness support
- Appointment coordination (medical, counseling)
- Budgeting & daily living skills
- Employment & benefits assistance
- Crisis intervention & mental health referrals



Estimated Project Timeline: E Street Bridge Housing

Target: Fiscal Year 2025



E Street Community Advisory Team

The E Street Community Advisory Team (CAT) serves as a collaborative opportunity between DHS, Mariam's Kitchen, ANCs, Civic/Neighborhood/Tenant Associations, and Facility residents to work together as a community. The CAT as a stakeholder is the official voice with the goal of making sure that all who resides within a DHS Facility is well-informed.

Take aways from the Aston CAT

- 1. Create the right-sized CAT: 15 members appears to be manageable and balance for the Aston.
- 2. Inclusion of lived experience: Helpful to have members with relevant experience.
- 3. Public input: Encouraging participation builds trust between local community and participating agencies.
- 4. Mayoral Office as co-chair: Inclusion of mayoral office allows connection to other DC government resources.
- 5. Centralized communication: Work together to have unified approach on communication and outreach.

What's Next?

- Warm Hand Off
 - Mariam's Kitchen is the assigned provider of E Street.
- What to Expect Next
 - Increased activity as clients begin to arrive.
- Maintaining Community Engagement
 - As E Street settles DHS will maintain support by conducting community area walkthroughs.
- The Community Advisory Team (CAT) Development
 - Use the provided form to sign-up as a member of the CAT.



Thursday, September 26, 2025
ANC 6E Community Meeting