

Oxford House of Washington

Overview

Oxford House is a shared housing residence for people in recovery from substance use disorders. An Oxford House describes a democratically run, self-supporting drug-free home. Residents are voted in by 80 percent of the house residents based on an interview. Whether someone is receiving medication for opioid use disorder (known as an MOUD) is not a deciding factor. If someone is not voted in, he or she can apply at another Oxford House anytime. There is no limit to the length of stay, and six to ten residents may occupy the house. There are houses for men, women, men with a child or children, or women with a child or children.

Eligibility requirements

Adults who are actively participating in substance use disorder treatment or in recovery, including those in medication-assisted treatment, are eligible.

Authority

Congress established the Oxford House Revolving Fund in 1989, which created a revolving fund that provides loans to establish homes for groups of recovering individuals. In Washington, HCA's Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) is the state agency responsible for administering the revolving fund.

Start-up house loans, for a maximum of \$4,000 per house, are approved by Oxford House, Inc., and are paid back to DBHR's revolving fund over a two-year period.

Budget

The budget is \$1,051,566 annually from federal Substance Abuse Block Grant funds.

Additionally, \$4,000 is provided as initial startup money to establish a revolving fund loan to open new houses throughout Washington.

Costs and numbers served

There are currently sites in 25 Washington counties: As of August 30, 2022, there are 346 houses and 3,020 beds available across Washington State.

- 101 women's houses, including one on tribal land
- 41 women-with-child(ren) houses
- 245 men's houses, including one on tribal land
- 24 men-with-child(ren) houses

Rent is established by each Oxford House and paid by the residents.

Partners

Oxford House collaborates directly with the 29 Washington State Federally Recognized Tribes, Behavioral health organizations, counties, the Department of Social and Health Services, real estate agencies, landlords, local chemical dependency agencies, drug courts, correctional facilities, and other local for-profit or non-profit agencies.

Oversight

Oversight is provided by DBHR to ensure houses are compliant with the contract statements of work and federal requirements.

For more information

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- National Oxford House website: www.oxfordhouse.org