Is this program right for me?

Have you experienced homelessness due to a change of circumstances or conditions in your life, such as the loss of a job, family member, or changes in your health? Have you been evicted or at-risk of eviction due to lack of financial resources, leaving you unable to pay rent on time? Have you struggled to maintain your housing and ended up living with friends or family, in shelters, or on the streets?

Do you have a substance use and/or mental health disorder which affects your ability to secure or retain housing?

If these are some of the challenges that you are facing today, are you willing to make some changes and receive help?

Let the First Step Inn help you.

First Step Inn
134 Durfee Street
Fall River, MA 02720
508-679-8001

www.steppingstoneinc.org
www.fb.me/stepstoneincorp
What can I expect if I participate in the program?
The First Step Inn provides safe shelter and daily nutritious meals to homeless persons in the City of Fall River. Case management services offered at the First Step Inn connect guests to housing, employment, mainstream resources, primary and behavioral healthcare, and an array of other services.

Guests are assisted with locating and securing permanent housing and have access to wrap-around supports to ensure continued stability. These comprehensive supportive services are offered in a safe, comfortable environment and enable guests to successfully transition into the community and experience housing stability and an improved quality of life.

Who is eligible?
Eligible guests must be 18 years of age or older, homeless or chronically homeless in Fall River, MA, and medically and psychologically stable. Guests must be willing to authorize a CORI check, as well as submit to a safety search upon admission. A picture ID is required.

How do I apply?
All referrals, including those from social service agencies, homeless providers, addiction centers, and self-referrals, must go through Fall River's Coordinated Entry System, “The CALL”, which can be reached by calling 1-800-HOMELESS. If criteria are met, an individual seeking assistance must be pre-screened before receiving services. The screening hours are between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

The First Step Inn receives Housing and Urban Development Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding through the MA Department of Housing and Community Development and the City of Fall River as well as proceeds from the annual Get Steppin’ Walk fundraiser.

My tent burnt down in a fire. I was trying to keep warm. I lost everything and ended up at the First Step Inn. I don’t have to worry about being hungry and warm right now and will be working with a case manager. ~ Mary

What services are offered?
- Food and nutritional assistance
- Safe and secure sleeping environment
- Comprehensive case management
- Housing placement assistance
- Psycho-educational groups
- Assistance with applications for mainstream resources
- Crisis intervention
- Various on-site meetings such as AA, NA etc.
- Residential substance abuse treatment access
- Outpatient substance abuse treatment access
- Coordination of emergency and long-term psychiatric care
- Referrals to community-based collateral services, educational development, medical care, domestic violence support, and other forms of assistance
- Discharge and aftercare planning

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