

First Step Transitional Housing Program

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Warren Village First Step?

Warren Village First Step is a one-year transitional living program for women and women with children. First Step offers communal housing, case management, on-site life skills classes, volunteer opportunities and on-site staff to assist residents in becoming self-sufficient and obtaining permanent housing. We have 7 units for families and 6 units for single women.

How do I apply?

To apply, an applicant must be at least 18 years of age and considered homeless. **The initial step in the application process is different for the single women versus the women with children.**

- Single Women: Must be working with a case manager in the Housing Stabilization Program at The Gathering Place (303-321-4198). All single women are referred by this program.
- Women with children: Should call the Warren Village First Step office at **303-477-3843** to set up an intake/application appointment.

Can I be denied at Warren Village First Step?

First Step conducts an intake interview, screening applicants for goals, motivation, criminal and drug history, as well as appropriate fit for community living. We cannot accept undocumented residents, people with violent criminal history or a history of sexual offenses.

How much does it cost?

Rent at First Step is 30% of gross monthly income, or \$25 if a resident has no income. Utilities are covered with the monthly rent. As a benefit to all residents, all rent paid goes into a savings account, and will be refunded upon move-out.

What is expected of me if I become a Warren Village First Step resident?

You do not have to be working or attending school in order to apply at First Step, however you will be asked to obtain part time employment, school, or career-related training after moving-in.

The program also requires the following:

- Meet with Family Advocate for case management on a weekly basis
- Part-time status in work, school, or a career-related training program
- Attend two monthly on-site life skills classes.
- Participate in community by attending monthly house meetings and completing daily chores.
- Pay rent on time
- Complete 2-hours of community service per month
- Complete required monthly paperwork (Monthly Status Report)
- Submit to weekly, random urinalysis to ensure drug and alcohol free living
- Ability to live in a communal living setting/shared house

“Living in transitional housing is a full life... It is a chance to get your feet back under you. It is a gift from very smart people that sensed that there was more to leaving a homeless life than pulling yourself up by your bootstraps.”

– Ann, alumna