

Supported Hostel for Ex-mentally Ill Persons

Abbreviation: SHOS

Introduction

SHOS provides group home living for people with disabilities who can only live semi-independently with a fair amount of assistance from hostel staff in daily activities.

Purpose and objectives

The objectives of a SHOS are:

- to provide residential care and facilities for semi-independent living;
- to enhance residents' independent living skills and facilitate their integration into the community; and
- to promote the quality of life of the residents and to maximize their potentials through the provision of a supportive and stimulating environment.

Nature of service

The services provided by a SHOS include:

- (a) provision of accommodation, food and meals;
- (b) provision of guidance/assistance to residents in performing some domestic tasks and daily activities;
- (c) provision of opportunities and activities to develop independent living, social, communication and decision-making skills;
- (d) provision of opportunities and activities to meet social and recreational needs; and
- (e) provision of opportunities and activities to enable residents to maintain contact with the families and community.

Target group

The target group is ex-mentally ill persons aged 15 and above, with a need for accommodation for social reasons, who can manage semi-independent living.

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for a SHOS place, an applicant should be:

- actively occupied in various forms of employment/day training;
- physically and mentally suitable for group living;
- physically healthy with no active infectious disease or drug/alcoholic abuse; and
- capable of semi-independent living i.e. mastery of self-care skills but may need a fair amount of guidance/assistance in some domestic tasks like cooking or washing or in community living activities like shopping.

Staffing:

Notional staffing for a standard SHOS with 20 places is:

SWA	1
WW	2
WA	1
WM II	1/2

Referral channel

Referrals can be made by medical social workers, school social workers, caseworkers of Integrated Family Services Centres and staff of rehabilitation service units to the Central Referral System for Rehabilitation Services.