



# Search for Change

Promoting Growth, Independence & Recovery

A Solution for Supportive and Affordable Housing



## A Tradition of Community-Based Care for the Most Vulnerable Among Us...

Search for Change, Inc. (SFC), a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, was established in 1976 at the dawn of the deinstitutionalization movement (i.e., the movement to replace state-operated institutions with community-based alternatives for individuals with serious mental health conditions)

The agency operates a vast network of supportive housing, vocational rehabilitation, and care management services for this population



SFC now serves individuals with increasingly complex needs

These include persons with serious mental illness, substance use disorders, and chronic physical health conditions

SFC and its sister agencies provide an essential safety net for those who would otherwise be relegated to institutional settings...or worse

But we do not merely provide safe and supportive living environments for our clients...

We aspire to promote improved health, stability, and self-determination among those entrusted to our care



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## A Solution to Putnam's Affordable Housing Shortage

Putnam has experienced rapid growth in population relative to neighboring counties

Housing stock has remained relatively stagnant

Resultant imbalance between supply and demand has led to escalating housing prices

The county's current Fair Market Rent (FMR), as determined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), is as high as any in New York State (and higher than Westchester's)!



## A Solution to Putnam's Affordable Housing Shortage (continued)

A majority of Putnam County residents apply more than 30% of their income toward housing\*

Eighty-eight percent (88%) of owners and renters in Putnam County reside in “unaffordable” or “severely cost burdened” housing arrangements\*\*

\*Putnam County Housing Corporation Housing Needs Assessment, 2014.

\*\* Ibid.



## Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI)

In 2016, NYS established this initiative to promote the development of affordable and supportive housing

SFC received a grant to administer approximately 50 units of housing in Putnam County (25 of which would house individuals with special needs and 25 of which would house individuals who qualify in accordance with income guidelines)

The agency is currently searching for a viable parcel for development and construction



## Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI) (continued)

Your support to this end would aid us in achieving our mission to alleviate our county's affordable housing crisis!

Thank you!



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Questions?