New Apartments & Community Services Facility

SIENA/FRANCIS HOUSE
The Siena/Francis House is Nebraska's largest homeless shelter, providing food, emergency shelter, clothing and other services to homeless men, women, and children. The Siena/Francis House also houses a chemical addictions treatment center, a day services center, an employment training program, and a medical clinic. The Siena/Francis House has an open door policy, in that we do not turn away any person or family who comes to us in need, regardless of circumstances. Founded in 1975, the Siena/Francis House is Nebraska’s largest homeless shelter.
Frequently Asked Questions:
Q. When will the apartments be ready?
A. We expect the apartments will be ready for occupancy in October, 2012. We plan to start the application process in July, 2012.

Q. What are the qualifications needed to be eligible to get an apartment?
A. Each tenant must currently be homeless and have a verifiable disability. Types of disabilities include, but are not limited to the following: physical illness or disability; diagnosable substance use disorder; serious mental illness; developmental disability; post traumatic stress disorder; and cognitive impairment.

Q. Is there a lease and what is the rent?
A. There will be a lease. The Seldin Company will be managing the buildings and they will handle the leases and collect the monthly rent of $250, which includes utilities.

Q. How will I pay the rent?
A. Siena/Francis House case workers will help tenants set up a checking account and an automatic withdrawal to pay for the rent. Staff will assist persons who may qualify for benefits to apply for: Social Security; disability; housing vouchers; Veterans assistance; and General Assistance.

Q. How do I apply?
A. See a caseworker in the Day Services Center or people working the desk in the shelter for a Tenant Sign-Up Sheet. Staff will help you fill out the sheet and ask for some information to determine if you are eligible for one of the apartments. Once a person who is interested in becoming a tenant in the new apartments is prequalified, the information will be given to the Seldin Company, and the Seldin Company will set up the lease.

Q. What are the rules?
A. The rules will be the same as for any other apartment building. The apartment is your home. There will be restrictions on illegal drugs and illegal activities, monetary penalties for property damage, and an expectation to keep the apartments and community area clean.

Q. What furniture and amenities will be provided in each apartment?
A. The following furniture and amenities will be provided in each apartment: bed, 2 chairs, dresser, microwave, refrigerator, sheets, pillow, bedspread, dishes, silverware and internet access.

Q. Will I still be able to go to the Day Services Center during the day and to the Baright Shelter in the evening?
A. Sure. We want you to be comfortable in your new home. Please know, though, that the apartment buildings will have a community room for tenants in which you will be able to socialize and hang out.

Q. What services will be provided to me in the future?
A. Each tenant will be assigned a Siena/Francis House case worker who will provide case management. Tenants may also receive other Siena/Francis House services, including; medical, meals, credit counseling, nutrition, & transportation.