

More info on Options Foundation, Inc.

Options Foundation

Options Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit agency that specializes in providing housing for the homeless and disabled persons. We currently have three facilities in Baton Rouge, one in Jackson and one in Donaldsonville. There are several projects in various stages of development for providing additional housing opportunities in the communities we serve. Our programs are operated in cooperation with the State Department of Health and Hospitals, the Office of Community Development of the City-Parish Government of Baton Rouge, the city government of Donaldsonville, the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Capital Area Alliance for the Homeless, the Capital Area Human Services District, the state Department of Social Services, and others.

Founded in 1993 by a group of social service professionals. The Options Foundation provides therapeutic residential group home services for boys and has under development "Options Villa". Options Villa is a project that will provide supported housing for homeless mentally ill person(s).

Mission:

The primary mission of Options Foundation, Inc. is to provide quality housing for persons with severe, chronic mental illness. We provide a caring atmosphere that enables our residents to build a life in a safe environment that stresses independence, responsibility and self-sufficiency within the community.

Options Foundation also works with at-risk- youth. We have an alternative school, Northshore Options, located in Mandeville on Southeast Louisiana Hospital campus. This program is operated through a contract with the Office of Youth Development.

About

Options Foundation engages in a vigorous outreach program with frequent and regular contact with discharge planners at mental health facilities, homeless shelters, and other places where homeless mentally ill persons are found. The population we serve is primarily severely mentally ill. Once a candidate for Options Villa residency is identified, our Case Manager works with the person to establish disability eligibility or other sources of income. The work to obtain our housing continues with the logistics of moving. We provide transportation to move the individual from his current location to Options Villa and assist initial expenses. In addition we assist with clothing, furniture, food, and other needs to establish a residency.

Once the individual is moved in, he or she becomes a part of a supported community designed to empower the resident to stay in Options Villa. Specifically, we provide twice a day nursing services to ensure that the resident's mental illness is controlled by his medication. We encourage and support the resident's participation in therapy. One example of this is that we send a staff person to make sure the residents are awake and ready to catch their rides to their therapy programs each morning. Without this support some residents would simply sleep all day. In addition, our tenant facilitator makes sure that the residents are able to access public facilities as needed.

The alternative school, Northshore Options receives referrals from the Office of Youth Development. The students are 12-17 years old and have been adjudicated or in the Family in Need of Services (FINS) program and a probation officer refers them. The student is placed in an academic classroom with 8-12 students. Students participate in individual and daily group counseling, behavior modification point system, recreation, and community service. Family counseling is available. Upon successful completion of the program students will return to public school, or vocational school, or obtain their GED.

Northshore Options Northshore Options, is located in Mandeville, Louisiana, is an alternative school providing academic instruction and counseling to adjudicated youth from ages 12 - 17. Students pursue regular education including LEAP and GED preparation classes and may receive Carnegie units for high school level. Northshore Options provides individual, family, and daily group counseling. It also provides a behavior modification program, recreation, field trips, and community service. For additional information about Northshore Options, contact the Program Director at (985) 727-1453.

Admissions

Housing

- The individual is classified as homeless (Options Villa and Donaldsonville)
- The individual is at least 18-years of age
- The individual has a primary diagnosis of a serious mental illness or a concurrent diagnosis with chemical dependency.
- The individual has sufficient financial resources to maintain basic living costs.
- The individual is capable of participating in and benefiting from our setting and supportive programs.
- The individual is able to demonstrate ability to exhibit control of his/her behavior and is judged not to be a danger to self or others
- The individual demonstrates ability to care for self or others.
- The individual agrees to participate in his/her respective program plan, which may or may not include compliance with a recommended regimen of psychotropic medications.

Admission Criteria:

The alternative school Northshore Options

- Youth is adjudicated or FINS
- 12-17 years of age
- A probation officer refers them to the program

For more information on Admissions contact: Shannon Hawkins
Voice:
(225)334-9063

Email: hawkins@mmoinc.com

Housing

Options Villa

Options Villa provides long-term housing for homeless, chronically mentally ill and/or dual diagnosed adults. The facility can accommodate 40 individuals in two-bedroom apartments. Case management services are provided along with support services to empower residents to live independently. On site staff and daily nurse visits, are also provided. For more information about Options Villa, call our Housing Administrator at (225) 389-9400. bankst@optionsfoundation.net

Options II

Options II is an apartment building for the chronically, seriously mentally ill and/or dual diagnosed adults. Nursing care, case management, transportation and access to therapy are provided. For more information about, call Options Housing Administrator at (225) 389-9400. bankst@optionsfoundation.net

Options East & West

Options East & West consist of five houses for the chronically, seriously mentally ill and/or dual diagnosed adults. The houses can accommodate eight to nine individuals. Case management services are provided along with support services to empower residents to live independently. On site staff and daily nurse visits are also provided. Options West is located across the street from our flagship facility, Options Villa. For more information, call our Housing Administrator at (225) 389-9400. bankst@optionsfoundation.net

A New Life

A New Life is located in Jackson, Louisiana, on the grounds of Eastern Louisiana Mental Health System - East Division. It is an Adult Male Residential Group Home for seriously mentally ill adults. There are two houses, with six male individuals living in each house. Criteria for these homes include recent discharge from long-term inpatient care at East Campus. On-site Staff (24-hours, 7-days a week), nursing care, transportation and access to therapy are provided. For more information, call Options Housing Administrator at (225) 634-0656

Options For Living

Options for Living is an 18-unit apartment complex located in Donaldsonville, Louisiana, providing long-term housing for chronically mentally ill adults. Case Management and additional support services are provided to empower residents to live independently. On site staff and daily nursing visits are also provided. For additional information about Options of Ascension, contact our Housing Administrator at (225) 746-0101 Melecont@optionsfoundation.net

Hope Villa

Hope Villa, located in Prairieville, Louisiana, is an Adult Male Residential Group Home for chronically mentally ill adults. The facility houses 13 males, ages 18 and over. On site staff (24-hours, 7-days a week), nursing care, transportation and access to therapy are provided. For additional information, contact Options Housing Administrator at (225) 673-3201. hopevilla@optionsfoundation.net

River Oaks Estates

Services

The Foundation is licensed and operates an alternative educational program for adjudicated youth in Covington, Louisiana. Options Foundation serves as administrator of a grant to the regional Office of Mental Health to provide family support services and has administered this grant for the past four years.

The Department of Transportation has awarded Options Foundation two grants, one in 1995 and one in 1996 for handicap vans. Both of these are operational within the City of Baton Rouge for the Transportation of physically handicapped citizens.

The state Office of Mental Health of the Department of Health and Hospitals has awarded Options Foundation a contract to promote the understanding of mental illness and to reduce the stigma attached to it. Options Foundation serves as payee for tenants who need assistance in managing their finances.

Funding for the alternative school, Northshore Options is by contract with the Office of Youth Development.

Contact

- ➤ For Options Administration Office, call (225)293-6774 Ext 114. Email:
- ➤ For information about River Oaks Estates, call the Program Director at (225) 778-0042.
- ➤ For additional information about Northshore Options, contact the Program Director at (985) 727-1453.
- ➤ For more information about Options Villa, call our Housing Administrator at (225) 389-9400.

Options Foundation, Inc.

Support and Services

Options Foundations, Inc., a 501 (c) (3), not for profit organization was founded in January of 1993 by a group of social service professionals to fill service needs in our community. These professionals such as BCSW's, Psychiatrist, RN's, LPN's, and others contribute their talents and experience to support the services of the Foundation.

Options Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors that includes community leaders and consumers, as required by funding agencies. The Foundations funding has been through donations, grants, support of other non profits, and contract reimbursement. Options operates in a multi-parish area that includes East Baton Rouge Parish.

Housing

Options Foundation began providing therapeutic residential group home services in 1995. The Terri House is for boys 12-17 years of age with serious emotional problems that have not been able to function in a foster home setting. As an alternative to incarceration, Terri House has been very successful in turning children's lives around. It operates 24 hours a day providing mental health counseling, social services, board, and care to a maximum of 12 adolescent males. Since opening in 1995, Terri House has maintained an average annual occupancy of 10 clients.

Options Foundation has been awarded a HUD Grant to provide supported housing for homeless mentally ill person(s). In addition, Option Foundation has \$250,000 to contribute to the project. Our project, Options Villa will renovate and landscape the Convention Street Apartments located at 2426 Convention Street (behind the city bus terminal). We will provide decent, affordable housing with round-the-clock on-site management, support services, and security. The building will be staffed with a full time Project Director, Case Managers, Security Personnel, along with others in order to provide extensive independent skill training to the residents. These objectives were identified by Options Foundation working in partnership with the following agencies:

- Regional Office of Mental Health
- Office of Community Service
- Baton Rouge Police Department
- East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office
- Homeless Coalition
- Office of Veteran's Affairs
- East Louisiana State Hospital At Jackson, LA
- Mid City Redevelopment
- Inter-City Community Association

Options Villa

**Baton Rouge, LA 70809
(225) 293-6774**

Options Villa is a supervised facility operated by Options Foundation for emotionally disturbed adults with mental illnesses and/or substance abuse. SHP funding provided assistance with the acquisition and rehabilitation of the facility and continues to provide assistance with supportive services and operations expenses. Services include mental health counseling, case management, outreach services, social skills development, and other miscellaneous expenses related to the delivery of services.

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