

People make a house a home

*Affordable housing is the number-one need for many people. Individuals with limited income and/or independent older adults often are impacted the greatest. Following is an article from **Dawn Olderr-Montalvo** who reached out to us to describe her experience in looking for affordable housing in our community.*

I am familiar with Pat Crowley House (PCH) because I am a former resident. It is an inter-generational residence for low-income seniors in Edgewater. Needing a low-income apartment, I put my name on waitlists all over the city with the shortest wait being two years. When I called PCH, it had an immediate opening.

I toured the place and found its homey atmosphere appealing. I spent two years there while waiting for my own apartment. I found these residents considered each other family even when they got on each other's nerves. It is a handicap-accessible, converted six-flat that houses 12 seniors, four resident assistants, and a family with a young child. Resident assistants (RAs) do light housekeeping, laundry, and some cooking. They are usually young people seeking room and board to attend school or keep expenses down while working another job.

Independent seniors (62 and older or 55 if disabled) pay a percentage of their income that makes it more affordable than many other supportive-living environments. Rent includes a private room and most living expenses, including activities and outings. Two communal meals a day are prepared by a cook and cold breakfast options are provided. For more information, visit the [H.O.M.E website](#).

May 2022