Supportive housing is proven to help people who face the most complex challenges - individuals and families who are not only homeless, but who also have very low incomes and serious, persistent issues that may include substance use, mental illness, and HIV/AIDS - to live more stable, productive lives.

Without a stable place to live and a support system to help them address their underlying problems, most homeless people bounce from one emergency system to the next - from the streets to shelters to public hospitals to psychiatric institutions and detox centers and back to the streets - endlessly. The extremely high cost of this cycle of homelessness, in human and economic terms, can be seen in the lives of homeless people everyday.

The ever-increasing momentum of government, corporate and philanthropic investment in supportive housing has been bolstered by research documenting its effectiveness.

For persons interested in more detailed analysis of research and evaluation studies, CSH has produced a series of brief documents that summarize key research findings to help answer Frequently Asked Questions regarding supportive housing, including the following:

- Who Lives in Supportive Housing?
- Is Supportive Housing Cost Effective?
- Is Supportive Housing Effective for Families?
- How Long Do People Stay in Supportive Housing and What Happens When They Leave?
- Are Housing First Models Effective?
- Do Voluntary Services Work?
- How Does Supportive Housing Affect Tenant Service Utilization?
- How Effective Are Employment Services in Supportive Housing?
- What Are We Learning from the Taking Health Care Home Evaluation?