November 2016
Youth Set Up for Success with Supportive Housing
“Reset for Success” is Helping Older Youth Transition

Click here to watch video of Youth W providing a tour of his Reset for Success apartment

Youth W is 19 years old and has been on parole since February 2016 after spending time at Indian River and Cuyahoga Hills Juvenile Correctional Facilities. Recently he told Cynthia Dansby, his Juvenile Parole Officer, “I’m just going to be honest with you. I’m homeless.” He explained how his mother, younger sister, and he had been staying with various friends and relatives, but the situation was beginning to interfere with appointments and other parole expectations to help Youth W get on the right path.

That’s when a lightbulb went off, and Ms. Dansby thought of Reset for Success, a supportive housing pilot project to provide a seamless continuum of care for older youth in need of housing in Hamilton and Cuyahoga Counties. Reset for Success is a partnership between DYS, the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH), FrontLine Service, and Lighthouse Youth Services. A total of 24 beds are available to older youth who have left DYS, are unable to reside with family, and are ready to journey into independence. FrontLine serves youth in Cuyahoga County while Lighthouse Youth Services assists youth in Hamilton County.

Ms. Dansby explained, “We’re seeing older youth on parole who need housing. This is a godsend.”
The process to get Youth W into the program was simple. Ms. Dansby contacted Reentry Administrator Larome Myrick and received paperwork to complete. Next, Youth W and Ms. Dansby met with a FrontLine case manager and supervisor. Then, Youth W participated in a diagnostic appointment. Once approved, Youth W and his FrontLine case manager considered apartment options that accepted the program voucher, and Youth W selected an apartment in Euclid, Ohio to continue to be near his mother and sister.

Youth W described the support that his FrontLine case manager continues to provide. “He is like a big brother to me. He has helped me with job applications, vouchers for items I needed, and I can talk to him.”

When asked how he felt about having his own place, Youth W responded, “Some things happen for a reason. This means the world to me. I always wanted my own place.”

To learn more about Reset for Success, please click here. If you have any questions regarding the program, please contact Larome Myrick, Reentry Administrator, at Larome.Myrick@dys.ohio.gov or by phone at (419) 241-5015.