



PHFA's Housing
Services Department
Best Practices

Mackey Lofts/Recycling Program

Categories: Resident Participation & Developmental Performance

Outcomes:

By providing a convenient location to dispose of recycling materials, it is easier for residents to participate and help reduce the amount of landfill waste. Residents were educated on what is allowable recycling materials and what is done with materials. The program relies on the participation of the residents and the resident council to establish good habits, and encourage others to do the same.

Program Components:

ACTION-Housing's Mackey Lofts was selected to participate as one of fifteen multi-unit buildings in Allegheny County for the Pennsylvania Resources Council's (PRC) Multi-Family Unit Recycling initiative launched in January. The partnership with PRC improves the current recycling program and enables Mackey Lofts to divert more recyclable materials from the landfill by collecting those materials in more convenient spaces within the property: on every residential floor, in the community room, in the laundry room, and in individual apartments. Previously, residents had to take recyclables to a dumpster behind the building. This initiative will also collect data on how much recyclable material is being diverted from the landfill by comparing the weight of current loads of waste

Units: 43 LIHTC Funded Units consisting of 1 & 2 bedrooms & 10 apartments are set-aside for individuals with Mental Health & Hearing needs

Management Agent: Supportive Housing Management Services

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with an estimated weight of the garbage collected before the recycling program was launched.



Background:

Mackey Lofts was opened by ACTION-Housing in 2013 in a former biscuit factory in Pittsburgh's Uptown neighborhood. The Mackey building, originally completed in 1918, had fallen into disrepair, until ACTION-Housing sought to rehabilitate the factory into 43 units of housing. The building is on one of the city's busiest transportation corridors, within walking distance of the Downtown and Oakland neighborhoods, the two biggest economic centers in Pittsburgh. Mackey Lofts is home to a diverse mix of local workers and residents including 12 units with special accessibility features for people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Mackey Lofts Recycles!



Recycleable Items

to separate from your trash:

Investment in Services:

The Multi-Family Unit Recycling Initiative is funded entirely by PRC with support from the Alcoa Foundation. The funding provides the purchase of the recycling bins for common areas within the Mackey Lofts and bins for individual residents, as well as education materials and signage.

For more information,
contact PHFA's Housing Services Department:

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