



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

My Y Story Eric D'Amato

I have been a Hart House resident for eight years. Prior to that, I was homeless for two years and was living out of my car. When my benefits came through I was able to look for housing. From the first day when I dropped off my application here at the Y, the staff welcomed me. Curtis showed me the room which has a shower and bathroom in it. I loved it and said I would take it. I moved in shortly after and have been here ever since.

When you live at Hart House you don't just get the benefits of a roof over your head, you are treated with warmth and dignity. If you come to them with an issue they will sit down and work with you. My health has deteriorated and I have had ups and downs in my personal life. This place has been here for me through it all. I consider Curtis and Marci my family and personal friends.

In August of this year I had open heart surgery. They said let us know if you need anything while you are there, if you need transportation or anything.

I have planted roots here. I have friends who help me bring my groceries up and help get my wheelchair. I feel safe here.

I have been able to get my financials in better shape and plan for the future. The rent is reasonable and includes electricity. The Y upgraded the internet system which allowed me to cancel cable and get a streaming service instead, saving me money. You are not going to find a reasonable subsidized rent like this anywhere else.

The Y is a super organization. They do a great job here. This is my last permanent address. It is my home.



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