

Shawn McFarland
case manager/DHHS
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My name is Shawn McFarland, I have been working in mental health for the last 23 years in various capacities. For 16 years I worked at Riverview Psychiatric as a mental health worker, working with patients as they worked their way through recovery to the point where they were able to go back into the community. 90% of the patients at the hospital (very similar to DDPC) had to find new housing after being discharged from the hospital. Housing back in the early 2000's when I first started my career was thin, but it was there. Over the next 20 years with inflation (especially last 24 months) and with the decompensation of so many buildings the rental market is less than poor. It's almost non-existent. Landlords are increasing their rents significantly outside of the parameters of housing vouchers preventing many folks on limited income or folks with disabilities from getting affordable housing or any housing period. The average SSA benefit is approximately \$750-\$800 a month and to afford rent without vouchers without affordable rent, they will go without food, or other basic necessities. Many of these HUD/senior living facilities have waitlists up to 10 years, the income based apartments have waitlists up to 15 years. Maine is an aging poor state and affordable housing is a must. More and more individuals are becoming homeless because of unfortunate turns of events, so many children are without homes because their parents have run into these events. No child, no adult should be without a home and it's disgusting and criminal that landlords care more about high rents than seeing people housed. I understand that being a landlord is a business and that landlords aren't in the business of free rentals and yes there is a significant stigma behind recipients of housing vouchers but that shouldn't be reflected and passed on to future recipients.