

# Abyssinian House

*Family Services*



Abyssinian  
Development  
Corporation  
BELIEVE. BUILD. EMPOWER.



*Mural project on display inside Abyssinian House*

## Program Description

The Abyssinian Baptist Church established the Samuel D. Proctor-Abyssinian House Tier II family shelter in 1992 in response to the social distress and housing crisis experienced by Harlem residents. The residence was one of Abyssinian Development Corporation's first efforts to revitalize the Harlem community and continues to meet the needs of 25 displaced families throughout the New York City area.

Samuel D. Proctor/Abyssinian House utilizes a collaborative strength based approach to assist families in moving toward self-sufficiency into permanent housing.

## Services Provided

- Intensive Case Management
- Permanent Housing Placements
- Onsite childcare
- Enrichment Services
- Linkages to Human Resource Administration (HRA) programs, Vocational/job training referrals, health/mental health/substance abuse referrals and supportive counselling
- Life Planning Workshops

## Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility to the program is determined by the NYC Department of Homeless Services for families requesting temporary housing.

## Achievements & Highlights

- Abyssinian House was the recipient of the 1st Bright Space in NYC developed by The Bright Horizons Foundation for Children in a homeless residence in May 2007
- Murals in the are lobby designed by Creative Arts Workshop for Kids designed to brighten and enhance the building.
- The shelter has moved over 400 families to permanent housing since opening.

## Enrollment Process

All referrals to the Abyssinian House come through the NYC Department of Homeless Services (DHS).



If the family is found eligible for temporary housing assistance, they will stay at Abyssinian House until permanent housing is secured.



If the family is referred to the residence as eligible status, they have been through the shelter system before, re-entering or transferring from another shelter.

## Program Duration

July to June year round

## Hours of Operation

Abyssinian House is in operation 24 hours a day, with business office hours from Monday to Friday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

## Contact Information

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## About Abyssinian Development Corporation

Since our inception, Abyssinian Development Corporation (ADC) has accomplished a great deal through its mission to "rebuild Harlem, brick by brick, block by block." As we continue our commitment to uplifting the Harlem community through ADC's comprehensive programs and services, strengthening families is crucial to completely fulfilling this change. ADC addresses complex, interconnected challenges facing the Harlem community by way of five tenets:

- **Quality Housing**
- **Social Services/Advocacy**
- **Economic Revitalization**
- **Education**
- **Civic Engagement**