



Questions & Answers

Q: Who will live at Genesis?

A: People of all ages: active, service-minded seniors, young families who are transitioning from foster care and other families who wish to live in a supportive community.

Q: What will I have to do to live there?

A: You'll need to pay your rent and utilities. And you must agree to be a good neighbor by committing your time to participating in the community and doing things to help other residents.

Q: What kind of things?

A: You get to help decide what you do to be a good neighbor. You can run an errand to the store, participate in a community activity, or watch someone's children if they need a break. If you have a talent for teaching you can help with after-school tutoring. If you're a good cook, you can help prepare a community dinner where residents come together for food and fellowship.

Q: How much time will I have to commit?

A: Seniors will be the foundation of the community. They will be expected to commit a minimum 100 hours of community participation quarterly, or 7-8 hours a week. Families, whose parents will either be working or attending school full time, will commit to 50 hours every quarter, or 3-4 hours a week.

Q: Which units are currently available?

A: At this time, the only units that remain available are for households whose combined income falls in the **51% - 80% AMI category**. Applicants can be senior singles, senior couples, households that include seniors, households that include children, and intergenerational households that include both children and seniors. The Genesis website includes information on income qualifications, rent and sample floor plans.

Q: How much is rent?

A: The rent for residents whose combined annual income falls in the **51% and 80% AMI category** will be \$1,200 for a 1-bedroom unit; \$1,590 for a 2-bedroom unit, and \$1,980 for a 3-bedroom unit.

Q: What kinds of planned activities will there be at Genesis?

A: Activities will be based on what residents decide they want. Examples could include community dinners, monthly birthday parties, and small classes on cooking, arts and crafts, etc.

A: Can I have overnight guests?

Q: Yes, but not every night. If you want someone to move in with you, they'll need to apply to be added to your lease. Additionally, they will have to make the same commitment as any resident and participate in the community's activities and support its members.

Q: Can I have other family members stay in the apartment?

A: Only visitors now and then. The apartment is just meant for residents who are listed on the lease.

Q: Is it a non-smoking building?

A: No smoking is allowed inside and around the premises of the building.

Q: What are the circumstances under which residents would have to leave Genesis?

A: Continually breaking house rules and not upholding their commitment to the community.

Q: What's the lease requirement?

A: A one-year lease is required.

Q: What will staffing look like for Genesis?

A: Genesis' staff includes a program coordinator and a community support specialist. Additional services will also be available from outside the community if needed.

Q: What do I have to do to apply to live at Genesis?

A: The application process will consist of several steps. First, you'll be asked to submit an application that includes basic information and responses to various questions about your interest in Genesis and how you might contribute to the community. To advance in the process, you'll also have to pass background checks, and attend an educational session on the challenges faced by youth in foster care. Finally, you'll be asked to participate in an informational interview so you can ask and answer questions about living at Genesis. These steps and the application timeline are listed on the website and detailed on the application itself.

Q: This seems like a lengthy process. Why is this necessary?

A: Genesis is not your typical housing development. This is the first community of its kind in the District, based on a proven model that's been developed in other cities. We want to make sure that each applicant understands the responsibilities of living at Genesis and, if selected, comes prepared to contribute. The process will also ensure the safety of community members, particularly children.

Q: Is there an application fee?

A: Yes. A standard non-refundable application fee of \$30 will be charged for each application to cover the costs of processing and background checks.

Q: What happens after the selections process?

A: If you are selected and decide that you and/or your family want to live at Genesis, you will be asked to sign a letter agreeing to the community rules and expectations.

Q: When's the move-in date?

A: November 1.