

Just Home FAQ Part IV

April 2025

What is a pre-trial detainee? Will Just Home residents be pre-trial detainees?

- A pre-trial detainee is a person who is detained on Rikers Island awaiting trial. These individuals are in the custody of the Department of Correction (DOC). About 87% of people held on Rikers are pre-trial. They have not been convicted of a crime.
- A Just Home resident will not be a “pre-trial detainee” or a detainee of any kind at time of move-in.
- Just Home residents will be individuals whom the courts have decided can live in the community.

What is the status of a person's court case when they leave Rikers and enter Just Home?

- We anticipate that Just Home residents will have their cases completely resolved prior to move in, but some residents may be released under a plea agreement and sentenced to probation. As a point of reference, the people who obtain housing in Fortune’s Castle Gardens have had their cases completely resolved and or were on probation or parole.
- Just Home is permanent supportive housing. Tenant selection criteria for the supportive units will include complex medical conditions, criminal justice history, and homelessness.

Will the Just Home tenants have mental health or substance use needs?

The process and criteria for screening and selecting Just Home residents have not changed since Health + Hospitals first announced the project.

1. First, CHS will identify patients with medical needs who would be homeless upon release from Rikers and may be good candidates for Just Home. Specifically, CHS physicians and social workers will identify patients based on their clinical and social needs, including their medical conditions, comorbidities, and age.
 - CHS clinicians will consider the patient’s entire health profile, including the severity of illness and the level of functional need. Primary health conditions may include cancer, congestive heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), cirrhosis, end-stage renal disease, or comorbidities such as poorly controlled diabetes and hypertension. These criteria have not changed since the program was announced.
2. Next, Fortune will conduct its own tenant screening process. Individuals assessed as posing a current risk of violence and individuals assessed as inappropriate for the independent, permanent housing model and level of services provided would not be accepted. Fortune will draw upon its decades of experience providing high-quality social services and housing in making these determinations.
 - Just Home is permanent housing that includes intensive social-service program. Residents who are unwilling to engage in programming and/or to abide by the community rules and obligations of the lease will be screened out during the admissions process.
3. Finally, as noted above, Just Home eligible tenants will have their cases adjudicated and pending release to the community.

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