

housing, services, and community for LGBTQ seniors

# openhause





- Founded in 1998 with goal to build LGBT-welcoming senior housing
- Quickly realized that housing alone would never work
- Mission became services, community building and housing
- Co-developed a two building project with Mercy Housing that includes 119 units of LGBTQ-welcoming affordable senior housing. First building opened in 2016, 2<sup>nd</sup> in 2019
- Services include community engagement, wellness and support and resource and housing navigation
- LGBTQ Cultural Humility training for providers for 20+ years

But is it REALLY LGBTQ people? Isn't that illegal?

- 68% of residents in our 1<sup>st</sup> building and 55% in our 2<sup>nd</sup> identify as LGBTQ
- Marketing, Year-round services and Application approach are key



- Housing alone won't build what LGBTQ seniors want/deserve
- Must work to build an intergenerational community where seniors are central in our lives and in our fight for social justice
  - Must work to transform existing aging services to ensure we can stay in our homes as we age

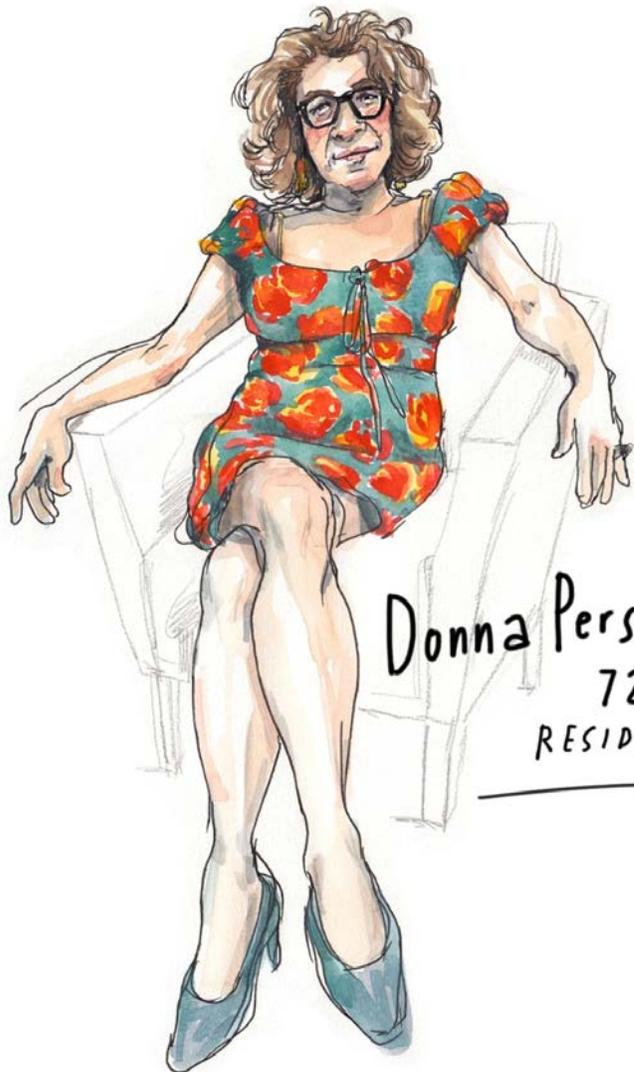


# The New York Times

Aisling  
Peterson, 23

RESIDENT CASE  
MANAGER

"LGBTQ SENIORS  
HAVE GONE THROUGH  
SO MUCH...  
I WANT TO HELP  
CREATE A PLACE  
WHERE I CAN  
SEE MYSELF  
GROWING OLD  
SOMEDAY."



Donna Persona,  
72  
RESIDENT



Red  
Jordan  
Arobateau,  
74  
RESIDENT

"WHEN I WAS A TEENAGER  
I HAD TO TAKE THE BUS ALL THE  
WAY ACROSS TOWN TO BE AROUND  
PEOPLE LIKE ME. NOW I JUST  
GO DOWNSTAIRS. THIS IS LIKE A  
NEIGHBORHOOD. WE'VE BEEN  
WAITING FOR THIS."