



PRESS RELEASE

Family Promise of Sussex County Receives \$150,000 Grant from The Cigna Group Foundation to Support Veteran Mental Health, Housing Stability

August 19, 2025 – Family Promise of Sussex County has been awarded a grant of \$150,000 from The Cigna Group Foundation, the philanthropic arm of The Cigna Group (NYSE: CI). The grant will aim to support veteran mental health through Stepping Stones Veteran Housing Stabilization (SSVHS) program.

The primary objectives of this program include providing transitional housing, case management, and financial assistance to veterans experiencing a housing crisis. SSVHS provides one-bedroom transitional housing apartments to serve as temporary emergency housing for veterans who are experiencing homelessness. Veterans in the program will also receive case management, supportive services, and financial assistance when they are ready to transition to permanent housing. The program will also support veterans at risk of homelessness with case management and financial assistance to help them either retain their current housing or obtain new housing.

“Thanks to this grant from The Cigna Group Foundation, we will be able to quickly move homeless veterans into a sheltered living situation as we work toward long-term housing stabilization,” said Chris Butto, LSW, CEO of Family Promise of Sussex County. “Our efforts aim to address housing stability through a combination of transitional housing, intensive case management, and financial assistance. We are grateful to have The Cigna Group Foundation’s support in working to end homelessness among veterans in our community.”

“Veterans often suffer from long-term health conditions after serving our nation, including depression and brain injuries, which affect their living conditions,” said Melissa Skottegaard, board chair, The Cigna Group Foundation. “Stable housing is vital to overall well-being, and by addressing shelter, we put veterans on a better path to improve their mental health. We are privileged to partner with Family Promise of Sussex County to enable their efforts to bring about better outcomes for veterans.”

The veteran grant program aims to help veterans who are facing an elevated risk of homelessness relative to the general population. The Cigna Group Foundation partners with nonprofit organizations that leverage evidence-informed programs and services to help local or

underserved veterans feel stable where they live and ultimately create positive impact on their mental health.

The Cigna Group Foundation has a long history of impactful partnerships with nonprofits, and in 2024 announced [a philanthropic and community engagement initiative](#) committing more than \$27 million in grants over three years to nonprofit organizations focused on improving youth and veteran mental health and by reducing barriers to health equity.

More information on the veteran grant program can be found [here](#). Additional information about Family Promise of Sussex County's programs can be found by going to <https://www.familypromisesussex.org>.

About Family Promise of Sussex County

The mission of Family Promise of Sussex County is to secure housing stability and sustainability for those in crisis ... because everyone deserves a home. Our vision is that every individual and family shall have a home, a livelihood, and the chance to build a better future. We offer many services and a dedicated team of individuals that are available to assist our clients in attaining these goals. To learn more visit us at our offices in Newton, Sparta and Sussex or contact us at 973-579-1180 or fpssc@familypromisesussex.org.

About The Cigna Group

The Cigna Group (NYSE:CI) is a global health company committed to creating a better future built on the vitality of every individual and every community. We relentlessly challenge ourselves to partner and innovate solutions for better health. The Cigna Group includes products and services marketed under Cigna Healthcare, Evernorth Health Services or its subsidiaries. The Cigna Group maintains sales capabilities in more than 30 countries and jurisdictions and has more than 186 million customer relationships around the world. Learn more at thecignagroup.com.

About The Cigna Group Foundation

The Cigna Group Foundation is a private foundation funded by contributions from The Cigna Group (NYSE:CI) and its subsidiaries. The Cigna Group Foundation aims to support, collaborate, and convene with nonprofit organizations addressing society's greatest health challenges. In addition to increasing access to programs and care in geographies demonstrating significant need, the Foundation responds with humanitarian aid relief during critical times and strengthens colleagues' support of causes through matching donations and volunteer rewards. To learn more, visit www.thecignagroup.com/community.

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