

Families move into Bronx apartments after winning NYC affordable housing lottery



THE BRONX (PIX11) — A new affordable housing building in the Bronx has opened, focused on helping people with mental health concerns, homeless families, and low-income families.

The River Avenue apartments on River Avenue has 245 units inside the affordable housing.

Celestino Quiñones, 66, said it's more than just a new home; it has completely transformed his life.

Quiñones, from the Bronx, lived in a shelter for two years and five months. He still remembered the day he got the news he was selected to move into a new affordable studio apartment at the River Avenue Apartments.

It was Jan. 18. A day he said he would never forget. When Quiñones got the keys, he said it felt like a new beginning. He can't wait to have his eight grandkids and cook seafood.

Quiñones was one of the first residents to move into this new building. The ribbon cutting Tuesday afternoon. It was created and built thanks to a partnership between community access, NYC's housing preservation and development, and the state's homes and community renewal.

It's not just affordable housing; it's a community that provides services like counseling, self-help groups, and job referrals.

There are dozens of open, affordable housing lotteries across the city.