The situation
Small apartments are often a solution for permanent supportive housing. This means that a single room must double as both a living area to host guests and also a bedroom. Furniture such as beds sends signals to residents and guests that remind everyone of the smallness of these units.

Potential solution
Adding bolster cushions and a removable slipcover to a single bed in a daybed frame can help residents convert a bed to a sofa with minimal effort. This aids in thinking of the room differently depending on the desired situation, easing the psychological ability to have guests to one’s room without awkwardness.

Location: Third Avenue Apartments, New York City
Managing organization: Services for the Underserved (SUS)
Interior Designer: John Shuman, Services for the Underserved
Architect: James McCullar Architecture, PC

Key words
Permanent supportive housing
Stress management
Dignity and Self-Esteem
Empowerment