

Fact Sheet: Housing to Support Mental Health Recovery

Updated: October 16, 2016

Overview	<p>Homelessness is traumatic, cyclical, and puts people at risk for mental health and substance use disorders. Homelessness also interferes with one's ability to receive services, including services for behavioral health conditions, and jeopardizes the chances for successful recovery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compared to Department of Social and Health Services clients overall, homeless children and adults were significantly more likely to have a Mental Health Disorder (50% increase for children/youth; 23% increase for adults) and three times as likely to have a Substance Use Disorder (Ford Shah, Black, and Felver, 2012a).• Nearly half of the clients discharged from residential chemical dependency (CD) treatment facilities, and 30 percent of those discharged from state mental health hospitals, are homeless in the year following discharge. Less than one in five of those in need received housing assistance (Ford Shah, Black, and Felver, 2012b).• One in six persons (16 percent) discharged from community psychiatric hospitals were identified as homeless or unstably housed in the month prior to their admission. Unstably housed persons have higher readmission risk according to the Outcomes for Person Discharged from Community Psychiatric Hospitals report. (Mancuso, Hughes, Felver, 2016) <p>According to the January 2016 WA State Point in Time Count, 3261 individuals self-identified as having a serious mental illness and homeless in our state and 2072 individuals self-identified as having substance use issues.</p>
Eligibility Requirements	<p>In 2015 Washington State applied for a five-year demonstration waiver through the Centers for Medicaid/Medicare Services (CMS) to demonstrate transformation through foundational community supports to targeted Medicaid populations. Initiative 3 of the 1115 Medicaid Demonstration waiver will serve specific populations and seeks to achieve the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support those who are unable to find stable housing: Chronically homeless individuals (as defined by HUD)• Decrease dependence on costly institutional care: Those with frequent or lengthy institutional contacts• Decrease dependence on restrictive and costly adult residential care/treatment: Those with frequent or lengthy adult residential care or treatment stays• Support difficult-to-serve LTSS recipients: Reducing turnover of in-home caregivers or providers• Support those at highest risk for expensive care and negative outcomes: PRISM risk score of 1.5+ <p>For more information see the Initiative 3 Fact Sheet at http://hca.wa.gov/assets/program/waiverfactsheet-i3.pdf</p>

Authority	<p>In 2012, the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) invited Washington State to apply for a Policy Academy to reduce chronic homelessness. The Policy Academy was co-sponsored by the U.S. Health and Human Services, Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH). Technical assistance from these agencies includes tools, resources, and expertise to help the state develop a strategic plan based on what works. Washington's team includes representatives of key government agencies, people with lived experience of homelessness, providers, and others with essential expertise and skills. The Housing 3000: Chronic Homeless Policy Academy's plan is focused on three domains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand affordable housing • Use opportunities under the Affordable Care Act to transform the service delivery • Use data to drive decisions <p>Several significant projects have emerged from the Housing 3000: Chronic Homeless Policy Academy's strategic plan including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toolkit to combat the criminalization of homelessness - http://wliha.org/toolkit • PhotoVoice qualitative evaluation of the BRIDGES project - https://icimedia.wistia.com/medias/ixrab87b5d <p>Webinars and academies to promote supportive housing services - http://www.wliha.org/medicaid-benefit-resources</p>
Budget	<p>DBHR has a history of providing projects aimed at addressing homeless/housing needs of individuals experiencing behavioral health issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent Options for Recovery Centered Housing (PORCH) • Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness – (PATH) • Bringing Recovery into Diverse Groups through Engagement and Support (BRIDGES) • Offender Re-Entry Community Support Program (ORCSP) • Oxford Housing Revolving Account <p>Housing and Recovery through Peer Services (HARPS)</p>
Rates	Not applicable at this time
Costs and Numbers Served	Not applicable at this time
Partners	Through continued national technical assistance from HUD, DBHR's partners in the Chronic Homeless Policy Academy include WA Department of Commerce, Governor's Advisory Council on Homelessness, WA Interagency Council on Homelessness, WA Department of Corrections, WA Department of Veterans Affairs, Regional Support Networks, Community Action Council representative, advocacy organizations, behavioral health providers and housing providers.
Oversight	Not applicable at this time
For more information	<p>Website: www.dshs.wa.gov/bha</p> <p>Melodie Pazolt, 360-725-0487, Melodie.pazolt@dshs.wa.gov</p>