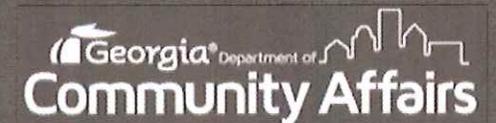


DCA

An Overview of Mental Health Housing Resources



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Housing Choice Voucher Program (Preference) ("Section 8")

All 149 Counties Under DCA

Severe and Persistent Mental Illness Clients (SPMI)

- ❑ One of every two open vouchers goes to Olmstead eligible clients;
- ❑ DBHDD referral required;
- ❑ Limited time preference;
- ❑ The "regular" wait list is closed;
- Total of 600 vouchers pledged. 237 under contract. 22 families searching for units.



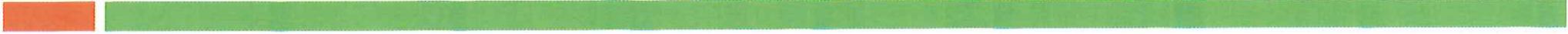
811 Program

\$14.4 Million to the State of Georgia to Provide long-term project based rental assistance to persons with disabilities. DCA is implementing this program in partnership with DBHDD.

30 YEARS of funding...500 Vouchers.

- ❑ Extremely Low Income – at or below 30% of Area Median Income.
- ❑ Ages – 18-61
- ❑ Disabled Persons – Olmstead Settlement Eligible. Severe and persistent mental illness.
- ❑ Low Income Tax Credit Properties who took “Points” agree to house 811 persons.

Agreement Between DCA and DBHDD



Formal MOA (Memorandum of Agreement) March 2015

Goals include:

- ❑ Building a Unified Referral Strategy to serve Olmstead Eligible persons for the 811 program
- ❑ Determining the need for Permanent Supportive Housing
- ❑ Maximizing the use of DBHDD's GHVP Voucher
- ❑ Maximizing Housing Resources—**Low Income Housing Tax Credit Properties** will affirmatively market to SPMI individuals

Walking Through the DCA/DBHDD Partnership



Step One: Settlement Eligible Person Is Located By Provider.

Step Two: DBHDD evaluates for housing. Goal is to place in 811 or HCV (Housing Choice Voucher) Preference.

Step Three: Any other housing options

Walking Through the DCA/DBHDD Partnership

Last Resort Per MOA: Georgia Housing Voucher Program (GHVP)

- ❑ State Dollars – No federal restrictions
- ❑ Flexible and portable
- ❑ Can house very quickly
- ❑ Great for higher cost areas
- ❑ This is the last resort for the hardest to house...

Walking Through the DCA/DBHDD Partnership

- 2,000 GHVP Vouchers

- Move someone into housing with GHVP

THEN CHANGE SUBSIDY to 811 or HCV Preference Voucher

Free up original GHVP Voucher

- Place, change subsidy, repeat...

- Bridge money on GHVP can get someone housed, and 811 can retain the housing.



CoC Program (Shelter Plus Care Program)

The purpose of DCA's Shelter Plus Care (S+C) program is to provide permanent housing in connection with supportive services to homeless people with disabilities and their families. The program provides rental assistance for a variety of housing choices, accompanied by a range of supportive services funded by other sources. The program is designed to serve a population that has been traditionally hard to reach - homeless persons with disabilities such as (but not limited to) serious mental illness, chronic substance abuse, and/or AIDS and related diseases. **Chronically homeless are prioritized.**

- ❑ 2,855 households – 3,459 total persons served.
- ❑ 100% have a disability. Majority mental illness and substance abuse.
- ❑ 35 agencies funded across all 9 Continuums of Care in Georgia.



CoC Program (SHP—Supportive Housing Program)

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) programs provide community-based housing and supportive services, without a predetermined length of stay, to assist homeless persons with a disability to live independently.

Chronically homeless are prioritized.

- 815 Enrolled in SHP funded programs
- 270 with mental illness
- 114 physical disability
- 60 veterans



DCA VASH (Veteran's Affairs Supportive Housing) Vouchers

The VASH program is an inter-agency collaborative effort that helps eligible homeless military veterans secure a decent stable affordable place to live by combining DCA housing choice voucher rental assistance with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs at its medical centers and in the community.

Participants have a **disability** and contribute 30% of income to housing.



ESG – EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT

The Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program provides **outreach, shelter, rapid re-housing, homelessness prevention** and related services to persons experiencing homelessness, or for persons in danger of becoming homeless, throughout the state. Assistance is provided to members of the community, local government entities and non-profit organizations utilizing State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless Commission (HTF) and Federal HUD ESG funds. This program is principally designed to be the first step in a continuum of assistance to enable homeless individuals and families to move toward independent living as well as to prevent homelessness. \$5,511,075 to 148 projects.

Mentally Ill – 2,859 individuals – 18% of total



HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

HOPWA

HOPWA provides supportive housing opportunities for persons living with AIDS and related diseases through direct subsidies to organizations providing housing and service programs for this population. FFY 2015 \$2,378,000 was awarded in HOPWA funds. 1,120 persons were benefitted in 910 households.

Technical Assistance



DCA is committed to trainings for grantee agencies to assist them with identifying the most difficult to serve, and prioritizing those persons. This helps agencies to locate and serve SPMI individuals at a higher level.

What Can The State Do?



- Continue To Promote Agency Cooperation
- Promote Resources/Awareness to Eligible Persons
- Continuous Review of Best Practices In Other States

Resources



Incentives To Provide Housing For Disabled and Others--QAP:

<http://www.dca.state.ga.us/housing/HousingDevelopment/programs/downloads/2016QAPDocs/QAP/2016QualifiedAllocationPlan.pdf>

CAPER (Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report):

http://www.dca.state.ga.us/communities/communityinitiatives/programs/documents/FFY2015_CAPER_09302016.pdf

Olmstead Settlement:

<https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/settlement-agreement>

811 Information:

<http://dca.ga.gov/housing/specialneeds/programs/section811pra.asp>

DCA's Office of Homeless and Special Needs Housing:

<http://dca.ga.gov/housing/SpecialNeeds/index.asp>