

Department of Public Social Services CalWORKs Housing Programs and SERVICES

DPSS Housing Programs

CalWORKs Homeless Assistance (HA) [State Program]

- Temporary HA Shelter Payments
- Permanent HA Housing Payment

DPSS Housing Programs [County Programs]

- Temporary Homeless Assistance Program+14
- Moving Assistance (MA)
- Emergency Assistance to Prevent Eviction (EAPE)
- 4-Month Rental Assistance (RA)
- Housing Relocation Program (HRP)

DPSS Homeless Services

 Homeless Case Management (HCM) Program

Skid Row Access Team (SRAT)

District Access Team

CalWORKs Temporary HA

- Provides temporary shelter payments to homeless families while they are looking for permanent housing.
- Once-in-a-lifetime temporary shelter payments for up to 16 <u>consecutive</u> calendar days.
- An eligible family may receive \$65 per day (for a family of up to four) and \$15 per day for each additional person up to a maximum of \$125 per day.
- The family must be actively searching for permanent housing, provide verification for the housing search, and provide verification of shelter expenditures.

CalWORKs Permanent HA

- Provides a once-in-a-lifetime payment to cover security deposit costs required by a landlord as a condition of assuming occupancy (last month's rent and any legal payment, fee, deposit or charge).
- In addition to the amount allowable for security deposits, this payment is available to cover needed utility deposits (turn-on-fees) required for gas, electricity and/or water.
- > The security deposit amount cannot exceed two times the total rent amount.
- This payment does NOT pay for first month's rent or overdue utility bills.

CalWORKs Permanent HA (continued)

- The participant must provide evidence of property availability and cost (e.g., completed PA 956, "Housing/Utility Verification" form).
- The rent cannot exceed 80 percent of the family's Total Monthly Household Income (TMHI).
- Rental/lease information must be verified through contact with the landlord/management company.

Permanent HA Arrearages

- Provides a once-in-a-lifetime payment that can pay up to two months of back rent.
- > The family must have an eviction notice or a pay rent or quit notice, caused by a valid financial hardship.
- Proof of the valid financial hardship is required.
- > The financial hardship must have been caused by circumstances beyond the family's control.

Temporary Homeless Assistance Program (THAP)+14

DPSS supplements the State's Temporary HA Program by providing an additional 14 days of temporary shelter payments to eligible CalWORKs WtW families.

THAP+14 provides \$65 per day for a family of four or less and \$15 for each additional family member up to a maximum of \$125 per day.

MA Program

- A program available to CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work (WtW) families who are homeless **or** at risk of becoming homeless due to a financial crisis resulting from circumstances out of the family's control.
- Provides a once-in-a-lifetime payment of up to \$2,500 to secure permanent housing. It can be utilized for:
 - Move-in costs, such as security deposits (i.e., last month's rent, cleaning fees, key deposits);
 - Utility deposits (turn-on-fees) required for gas, electricity and/or water, when not included in the rent;
 - Moving expenses, such as a truck rental; and
 - Up to \$405 for the purchase of a stove and/or refrigerator when the new residence does not have one.

EAPE Program

- Program available to CalWORKs WtW families who are behind in rent and/or utility bills due to a financial crisis which could lead to an eviction and homelessness.
- It provides eligible families with a once-in-a-lifetime maximum of \$3,000 to pay their past due rent and/or utilities for up to two months to help them keep their housing.

4-Month RA Program

The 4-Month RA Program provides a short-term rental subsidy of up to \$500 per month for a maximum of four consecutive months to help eligible CalWORKs WtW families pay their rent.

The 4-Month RA is available to families who:

- Receive the Permanent Homeless Assistance (HA)
 payment and/or Moving Assistance (MA) Program
 payment to secure non-subsidized permanent housing;
 and
- Receive the Permanent HA Arrearages payment and/or the Emergency Assistance to Prevent Eviction (EAPE)
 Program payment to help prevent the family's eviction.

4-Month RA Program

Family Size	Monthly Rental Subsidy Amount	
1 to 2	\$400	
3	\$450	
4 or more	\$500	

Note: Families enrolled in the WtW Family Stabilization Program can received up to eight consecutive months of subsidy payments.

Housing Relocation Program (HRP)

- Assists CalWORKs WtW families who need to relocate so that they can accept a job offer of 20 or more hours per week or keep a job they already have.
- ➤ Provides up to \$1,500 that can be used for moving expenses, i.e., truck rental, security deposits (including last month's rent and any legal payment, fee, deposit or charge that is required by a landlord as a condition of assuming occupancy), and utility deposits.
- Families in need of a stove and/or refrigerator, may be eligible for an additional \$405 to purchase one or both appliances.

HCM Program

Homeless Case Managers are located in CalWORKs District Offices and help CalWORKs homeless families or at-risk families:

- Identify and link to appropriate services and needed resources; and
- Develop housing plans that may lead families to permanent housing.

District Access Team

- Each District Office has a designated EW and Homeless Case Manager as part of the access teams to connect families with CalWORKs and homeless programs and services.
- Teams are on call to assist families who cannot travel to the District Office to apply for benefits. This includes possibly traveling to the shelter/agency to assist with completing and getting the application.

Homeless Family Solutions System (HFSS)

DPSS continues to support strategies to end homelessness through collaboration with the Chief Executive Office, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority and other county departments by participating in the HFSS to better serve homeless families and families at-risk of homelessness.

- The HFSS was implemented July 1, 2014, in all eight Service Planning Areas (SPAs) throughout Los Angeles County.
- There is at least one Family Solutions Center (FSC) in each of the eight SPAs.
- > The FSCs provide a service delivery system specifically for homeless families that will provide for better coordination and access to needed resources while keeping families within their own communities.

FSCs provide:

- Streamlined assessment and triage to housing and resources;
- Targeted intervention (e.g., rapid rehousing);
- Connecting families to employment and education that provide the families the financial resources to achieve long-term housing stability; and
- Individualizing a family's housing and service assistance based on each homeless family's ability to obtain and maintain permanent housing stability and self-sufficiency.

The FSCs are located in the SPAs as	
follows:	
FSC Provider	SPA
Valley Oasis (aka AVDVC)	1
L. A. Family Housing	2
Union Station Homeless Services	3
PATH	4
St. Joseph Center	5
Weingart Center	6
The Whole Child	7
Harbor Interfaith	8

Homeless families can be connected to an FSC by:

- Calling 211 LA County;
- Direct referral by a Homeless Community Based Organization;
- Direct referral by the Board of Supervisors Office;
- Direct referral from DPSS HCMs; and
- Walk-ins directly to the FSC.

DPSS HCMs can now refer the following CalWORKs families to an FSC:

- Literally homeless (i.e., staying on the streets or in a place not meant for human habitation) CalWORKs WtW and Non-WtW families; and
- > At-risk of homelessness (pending an eviction or can no longer reside in a temporary living situation) CalWORKs WtW families who DPSS cannot assist with homeless assistance/services. This includes homeless families temporarily staying with friends or family (couch surfing) that can no longer stay with the friend or family.
- Literally homeless families are to be referred to the FSCs for "Rapid Re-Housing" services and the at-risk of homelessness families are to be referred to the FSCs for "Prevention" services.

Questions