

# DMH Homeless Services and Resources

Reina Turner, M.S., Division Chief

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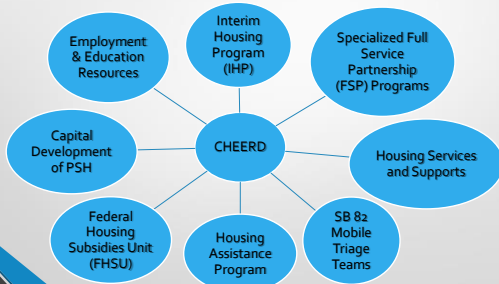
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## Countywide Housing, Employment and Education Resource Development (CHEERD)



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## DMH Expectations when Assisting Clients that are Homeless

- Complete the appropriate age specific triage tool (CES-Survey, VI-FSPDAT, Next Step Tool) and Authorization to enter PHI into HMIS
- Enter the triage tool information into HMIS
- Participate in Service Area CES Case Conferencing
- Explore all housing options with consumer including reuniting with family/friends

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## DMH Expectations when Assisting Clients that are Homeless

- Provide necessary supports to transition from homelessness to housing
- If client is receiving Intensive Case Management Services (ICMS), coordinate services with ICMS provider to avoid duplication
  - ICMS will provide housing supportive services
  - DMH will provide specialty mental health services including verification of disability

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## How are clients matched to DMH Housing Resources?

- DMH submits housing resource and eligibility criteria through MyOrg
- CES matcher identifies potential match based on eligibility and acuity from the CES prioritization list that meet the criteria of the resource and forwards the names to DMH
- DMH verifies eligibility and confirms the match and notifies DMH case manager of match to housing resource with directions on housing application to complete
- The DMH service provider works with the client to complete the housing application for the resource (unless there is an ICMS Provider)

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## Interim Housing Program (IHP) Overview

- The Interim Housing Program (IHP) is intended to provide temporary shelter services to adults with mental illness and their families who are committed to transitioning to permanent housing
- DMH "purchases" a guaranteed number of beds from each IHP provider
- DMH has contracts to provide IHP services at 6 family sites that can serve a total of 79 families and 16 sites that can serve a total of 401 individuals
  - There are family sites in SA 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7 and sites serving individuals in SA 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7

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## IHP: Client Eligibility Criteria

- Individuals eighteen years of age or older and families with minor children
- Homeless
- Have a serious mental illness and be receiving or be willing to receive services from a DMH directly operated clinic or DMH contract provider
- Not have income/financial benefits to pay for temporary housing
- Not require psychiatric or physical health emergency/inpatient hospitalization or other 24-hour treatment.
- Not require care and supervision or assistance with any Activities of Daily Living (ADLs)
- Be independent with mobility and transfers, including being able to safely use Durable Medical Equipment such as walkers/wheelchairs/assistive devices.
- Be continent of bowel and bladder or independent with the use of incontinence supplies
- Be cognitively alert and oriented to name, place, date and situation.
- Not be on mental health conservatorship or require care and supervision
- Willing to sign and adhere to the IHP Client Agreement specifications.

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## IHP: Mental Health Provider's Responsibilities

- Determine client's eligibility for the IHP
- Discuss exceptions to the IHP eligibility criteria with DMH IHP Administration
- Complete a CES Triage Tool and enter into HMIS. Consult with DMH IHP Administration if unable to complete the CES triage tool
- Complete an IHP referral form and submit to [IHP@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:IHP@dmh.lacounty.gov)

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## IHP: Mental Health Provider's Responsibilities cont.

- Assist the IHP provider to complete the IHP Monthly Client report that includes the status of the client's housing plan
- Meet immediately with the client at the IHP site as requested by the IHP provider or DMH IHP Administration to address any concerns about the client's participation in the IHP, the client's violation of the IHP provider's house rules or other behavior that puts the client at risk of termination from the IHP Program.
- Inform the IHP provider if the client is going to be absent from the IHP Absences for psychiatric/medical hospitalizations lasting more than 15 days and for family/significant other visits lasting more than 3 days require approval from DMH IHP Administration. Absences for any other reason, regardless of length of time, also require DMH IHP Administration approval.
- Immediately inform the IHP provider of any client issues including if the client discontinues mental health services.

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## IHP: Mental Health Provider's Responsibilities cont.

- Participate on calls with the IHP provider a minimum of once a month to discuss:
  - Any concerns the IHP provider has about the client's participation in the IHP
  - If the IHP provider, the mental health provider or the Intensive Case Management Services provider (if applicable) will be responsible for:
    - The development and implementation of a housing plan that is in alignment with CES triage tool score
    - Assisting the client to apply for any income/financial benefits for which they are eligible

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## IHP Administration Contact Information

The IHP Program Guidelines and Procedures, a list of the IHP providers and the IHP referral form are available on the DMH website under Countywide Housing, Employment and Education Resource Development/Interim Housing Program

Please send questions to [IHP@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:IHP@dmh.lacounty.gov)

Lise Ruiz, L.C.S.W., Program Head 213-251-6579

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## Housing Policy & Development Unit

Manages and administers MHSA and other DMH funding for

- Development of new permanent supportive housing resources; and
- Financial assistance to homeless households with security deposits, furnishing, ongoing rental assistance and eviction prevention.
- Provides capital and operating funds for the development of Supportive Housing targeting individuals and their families with a verified mental illness.

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HP&D  
MHSA Funded Capital Development Program

Targeted Population	Number of Developments	Number of Units
Transition Age Youth	13	167
Adults	30	615
Older Adults	12	248
Families	15	384
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>1,424*</b>

\* As of August 22, 2018

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HP&D  
MHSA Funded Capital Development Program  
Current Open/Occupied MHSA Developments

Service Areas	Number of Developments	Number of Units
1	1	12
2	9	216
3	1	10
4	11	328
5	3	44
6	6	122
7	1	15
8	5	90
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>837</b>

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HP&D  
Housing Assistance Program

Provides financial assistance to individuals moving into permanent housing from homelessness.

General Eligibility Requirements

- Currently receiving mental health services from a directly-operated clinic or contract agency
- Homeless as defined by HUD
- Must be able to pay ongoing rent in order to qualify for eviction prevention resources

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## HP&D Housing Assistance Program

### Program Components

- Household Goods (Furniture, Housewares, Linens, and Appliances)
- Security Deposits
- Eviction Prevention
- Utility Deposits
- On-going Rental Assistance (Directly-Operated FSP Only)
- Rehabilitation of Unit

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## HP&D Housing Assistance Program Application Process

Must complete the following required forms:

- HAP Application
- Authorization for Use/Disclosure of PHI Form
- Agency Verification of Homelessness Form
- Certification of Residence in a Homeless Facility Form
- W – 9 Form
- Email Packets to Brilliant Corners via Encrypted Email at [hapapps@brilliantcorners.org](mailto:hapapps@brilliantcorners.org)

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## Federal Housing Subsidies Unit (FHSU)

Manages and administers contracts with two local Housing Authorities which provide permanent supportive housing resources in the form of tenant based certificates and vouchers.

DMH has been awarded contracts which provide housing subsidies which can be used by DMH clients to rent units wherever they choose within the jurisdiction of the housing authority that grants the subsidy

As part of the grant, DMH provides supportive services to clients to maintain and retain housing

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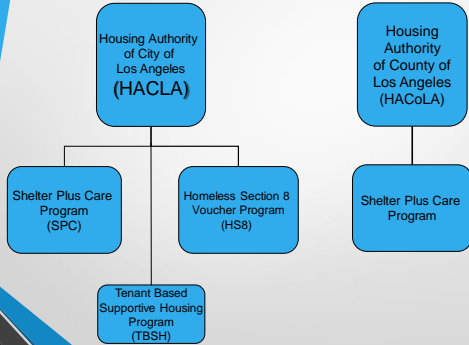
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## Federal Housing Subsidies Unit



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## FHSU General Eligibility Criteria

- Homeless or Chronically homeless (per HUD definition)
- Mentally ill
- Legal resident
- Receiving ongoing services with a DMH directly-operated or contracted clinic/agency
- Able to live independently with supportive services

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## Shelter Plus Care Eligibility Criteria

- Meet general eligibility criteria
- Meet chronic homeless criteria
- Supportive services match must be met
- Client should receive a high level of services to meet the match requirement (e.g. FSP, FCCS)
- Client should remain an active participant with a DMH directly-operated or contracted clinic/agency for the entire time that s/he is receiving housing subsidy
- Client must renew the certificate annually

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## Homeless Section 8 Eligibility Criteria

- Meet general eligibility criteria
- Client should remain an active participant with a DMH directly-operated or contracted clinic/agency for a minimum of 1 year after lease up
- Client must agree to reside in the Housing Authority's jurisdiction
- DMH Provider must conduct quarterly home visits for one year (HACLA only)
- Client must renew the voucher annually

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## How to Learn More

- DMH Website
- Monthly CHEERD Housing Meeting
- DMH Sponsored Housing Trainings
- FHSU Application Trainings
- HAP Application Trainings

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## Countywide Housing, Employment, Education Resource Development (CHEERD)

- Maria Funk, Ph.D., District Chief 213-251-6582
- Lise Ruiz, L.C.S.W Program Head- Interim Housing Program (IHP) 213-251-6579
- Reina Turner, M.S., Division Chief- Housing Policy & Development Unit (HP&D) 213-251-6558
- Priscilla Moore, R.N., Program Manager- Federal Housing Subsidies Unit (FHSU) 213-251-6567

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