

Housing stabilization crisis response

Overview

Housing Stabilization mobile crisis response teams focus on individuals with behavioral health conditions who are at risk of losing their housing.

The Washington State Health Care Authority's Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (HCA's DBHR) works with three organizations who are contracted with HCA to provide services to maintain and expand access to housing using the housing first model.

The Housing Stabilization team model includes two peer counselors. Wraparound supports are available. Services are provided after normal business hours and on weekends to de-escalate situations where individuals are experiencing a housing crisis. The crisis response teams collaborate with the Housing First teams to secure alternative housing options to include short-term alternatives which may temporarily de-escalate situations where there is high risk of living in unsheltered situations.

Eligibility

Adults in Washington state who meet these criteria are eligible for Housing Stabilization services:

- Adults 18 years of age or older
- Individuals with diagnosed behavioral health conditions
- Individuals experiencing unstable housing conditions or homelessness
- Individuals whose household income is under 50% Area Median Income (AMI) in the county they reside

Oversight and authority

The Washington State Legislature appropriated funding solely for the authority to contract for three regional behavioral health mobile crisis response teams focused on supported housing to prevent individuals with behavioral health conditions at high risk of losing housing from becoming to identify and prioritize serving the most vulnerable people experiencing homelessness, and increase alternative housing options to include short-term

alternatives which may temporarily deescalate situations where there is high risk of a household becoming homeless.

Budget SFY25

- \$988,000 general fund state
- \$618,000 general fund federal

Program outcomes

In SFY24, a total number of 363 individuals received Housing Stabilization services. This number includes:

- 49 individuals obtained permanent or transitional housing
- 190 individuals retained housing
- 369 received barrier removal services
- 77 individuals received a housing subsidy
- 45 individuals received mental health peer support services
- 158 individuals received substance use disorder peer support services

Key partners

This program's key partners include national subject matter experts, contracted consultants, and Housing First programs throughout Washington state. The HCA contracts with Catholic Charities (Spokane), the Moore Wright Group (Aberdeen), and SeaMar (Vancouver) to provide the services.

For more information

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