Continuum of Care Written Standard for NY-505

Syracuse/Auburn, Onondaga, Oswego and Cayuga Counties

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This document was adopted from the Homeless Alliance of Western New York by the Housing and Homeless Coalition of Central New York (CoC NY-505).

The Continuum of Care (CoC) is responsible for coordinating and implementing a system to meet the needs of the population and subpopulations experiencing homelessness within the geographic area of Onondaga, Oswego and Cayuga Counties. Both the Emergency Solution Grant Rules and Regulations (ESG) and the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Continuum of Care Program Interim Rules state that the Continuum of Care (CoC), in consultation with recipients of Emergency Solutions Grants program funds within the geographic area, (1) establish and consistently follow written standards for providing Continuum of Care assistance, (2) establish performance targets appropriate for population and program type, and (3) monitor recipient and sub-recipient performance.

All programs that receive ESG or CoC funding are required to abide by these written standards. Agency program procedure should reflect the policy and procedures described in this document. The CoC strongly encourages programs that do not receive either of these sources of funds to accept and utilize these written standards.

The written standards have been established to ensure that persons experiencing homelessness who enter programs throughout the CoC will be given similar information and support to access and maintain permanent housing.

The written standards have been created in conjunction with HUD Notice CPD-14-012 issued on July 28, 2014 titled Notice on Prioritizing Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness and Other Vulnerable Homeless Persons in Permanent Supportive Housing and Recordkeeping Requirements for Documenting Chronic Homeless Status that can be found online here: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=14-12cpdn.pdf

The Continuum of Care Written Standards will:

- Assist with the coordination of service delivery across the geographic area and will be the foundation of the coordinated entry system;
- Assist in assessing individuals and families consistently to determine program eligibility;
- Assist in administering programs fairly and methodically;
- Establish common performance measurements for all CoC components; and
- Provide the basis for the monitoring of all CoC and ESG funded projects.

These written standards have been developed in conjunction with ESG recipients (City of Syracuse, Onondaga County) and with service providers to allow for input on the procedure of Coordinated Entry/Assessment System, standards, performance measures and the process for full implementation of the standards throughout the CoC from the perspective of those organizations that are directly providing homeless housing and services, Emergency Shelter (ES), Transitional Housing (TH), Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Rapid Rehousing (RRH).

The CoC Written Standards have been approved by the CoC, the County and City ESG recipients and providers. The Written Standards will be reviewed and revised as needed at a minimum of once per year.

Program Requirement for All Programs

- Programs must coordinate with other homeless services within the CoC.

- Programs must coordinate with, refer to, and ensure client access to mainstream resources in the CoC including housing, social services, employment, education and youth programs for which participants may be eligible.
- Programs must have written policies and procedures and must consistently apply them to all participants.
- Programs that serve households with children:
  - A staff person must be designated as the educational liaison that will ensure that children are enrolled in school, connected to appropriate services in the community, including early childhood program such as Head Start, Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and the McKinney Vento education services.
  - The age and gender of a child under age 18 must not be used as a basis for denying any family's admission to a project that provides shelter for families with children.
- Programs receiving ESG and CoC funding must participate in HMIS (Homeless Management Information System), unless otherwise stated by federal regulations. Homeless programs that are not federally funded are strongly encouraged to participate in HMIS.
- Programs must meet minimum HMIS data quality standards (maintaining an "A" HMIS Report Card Grade).
- Programs providing Domestic Violence or Legal Services may opt out of HMIS participation but must utilize a comparable database to collect HUD required data elements.
- Programs must participate in Coordinated Entry System and use the prioritization criteria established in this document.
- Programs must conduct an initial evaluation to determine the amount and type of assistance needed to regain stability in permanent housing.
- Program rules and regulations should be designed in the spirit of inclusion rather than as grounds for denial or termination. Programs should exercise judgment and examine all extenuating circumstances in determining when violations are serious enough to warrant termination so that a program participant's assistance is terminated only in the most severe cases.
- Programs must have a formal procedure for terminating assistance to a participant that recognizes the rights of the participant(s) involved.
  - Programs must use judgment and examine all extenuating circumstances in determining that a violation should result in termination.
  - Every effort should be made to allow the participant to remain in the program; termination should only be exercised in the most severe cases.
  - Termination does not necessarily preclude assistance at a future date.
- Programs must make known that use of the facilities and services are available to all on a nondiscriminatory basis.
- Programs may not engage in inherently religious activities such as worship, religious instruction or proselytization as part of the programs or services funded under the CoC or ESG. These activities can be conducted (but not supported with federal funds) but must be separate and voluntary for program participants.

Recordkeeping Requirements for All Projects

Participant Recordkeeping Requirements include:

- All records containing personally identifying information must be kept secure and confidential;
- Programs must have written confidentiality/privacy notice a copy of which should be made available to participants if requested;
- Documentation of homelessness must be kept (following HUD's guidelines);
- A record of services and assistance provided to each participant;
- Documentation of any applicable requirements for providing services/assistance;
- Documentation of use of coordinated assessment system;
- Documentation of use of HMIS;
- Records must be retained for a minimum of 5 years as prescribed by HUD.

Financial Recordkeeping Requirements include:

- Documentation for all costs charged to the grant;
- Documentation that funds were spent on allowable costs;
- Documentation of the receipt and use of program income;
- Documentation of compliance with expenditure limits and deadlines;
- Retain copies of all procurement actions as applicable;
- Documentation of amount, source and use of resources for each match contribution;
- Documentation of audits, financial statements, bank statements, general ledgers, and financial policies/procedures.

Occupancy Standards for All Programs

All housing units, including scattered site programs owned and managed by private landlords, must meet HUD Housing Quality Standards and Housing Habitability Standards.

The Program, Record Keeping and Occupancy Standards as represented above apply to all programs regardless of the type of services/housing that they provide.

Coordinated Entry System

The Local Department of Social Services is the primary contact during business hours to receive shelter services and to be assessed to determine whether shelter services is necessary for individuals and families (shelter diversion). Contact Community Services is responsible for the 2-1-1 system whereby individuals contact this line for after-hours shelter services and shelter diversion.

The CoC has a Coordinated Entry workgroup which is primarily comprised of outreach workers, shelter discharge workers and PSH/TH/RRH intake workers and meets to discuss how to move shelter residents and unsheltered people into our PSH/TH/RRH programs. The group is chaired by the CoC HMIS Administrator.

The Vulnerability Index Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) developed by OrgCode Consulting has been approved by the CoC and will be the coordinated entry tool for individuals who may be experiencing chronic homelessness and will be used by all projects that are dedicated or prioritized for the chronically homeless. The Family SPDAT (F-SPDAT) developed by OrgCode Consulting has been approved by the CoC and will be the coordinated entry tool for families who are experiencing homelessness. The Transition Aged Youth SPDAT (TAY-SPDAT) developed by OrgCode Consulting has been approved by the CoC and will be the coordinated entry tool for unaccompanied youth who are

experiencing homelessness. For purposes of this document, the written standards will use the term "assess" or "assessment" which will refer to these tools and will specify the types of tools as needed.

The CoC has developed one streamlined waitlist that can be found in the CoC's HMIS: https://sp5.servicept.com/cnyhmis/com.bowmansystems.sp5.core.ServicePoint/index.html

The list is categorized by the highest assessment score of the most vulnerable and/or chronically homeless people who may also be experiencing the longest length of stays of homelessness in our CoC. Through this list, people at the top, will be prioritized for PSH/RRH/TH. All CoC and ESG projects, when there is a vacancy in their projects, must select from the Coordinated Entry list, which can be found in the CoC's HMIS referral list, which is a current, "in real-time" list, to fill this vacancy.

Projects will no longer carry their own independent waitlist as this previously created "cherry-picking" and "side doors" to housing that more vulnerable individuals and families could have benefitted from.

All street outreach providers are required to assess persons found in places not meant for human habitation using the assessment tool per the local ESG funding requirements. Once assessed, the person will be referred to housing on the HMIS referral list. The street outreach worker will continue to work with their client to make other referrals for additional services as needed and to follow up on any documentation or other requirements the housing providers need to accept their client into their project.

All emergency shelter providers are required to assess persons in shelter using the assessment tools, per the Local Department of Social Services Per Diem Shelter Contracts, if they have been in shelter for two weeks or more and this is their first experience of homelessness. If this shelter stay is a return to homelessness, the shelter provider must assess the resident(s) and work with the resident to make other referrals for additional services as needed and to follow up on any documentation or other requirements the housing providers need to accept their client into the project.

Housing providers are required to review the HMIS referral list when there is an anticipated vacancy to immediately fill the bed with a new program participant. The housing provider must select the person with the highest assessment score and the individual/family that fits the housing project's requirements (i.e. an adult cannot be accepted for a project that only accepts unaccompanied youth).

All CoC and ESG programs have their intake paperwork on the HHC website (www.hhccny.org) to help shelters provide quicker referrals and easier access to these forms. Program directors will provide updated intake paperwork when it becomes available.

Housing First:

Housing providers are required to adhere to a Housing First philosophy and implement this philosophy into their intake process as well as their program process. A Housing First philosophy and intervention must be adopted by all CoC and ESG programs, which lowers barriers to housing by ensuring applicants are not screened out due to:

- Having too little or no income;
- Active or history of substance abuse;
- Having a criminal history (with exceptions for state-mandated restrictions);

- History of domestic violence (lack of order of protection, period of separation from abuser, law enforcement involvement).

A Housing First philosophy and intervention also ensures that residents are not terminated due to:

- Failure to participate in support services;
- Failure to make progress on a service plan;
- Loss of income or failure to improve income;
- Domestic violence;
- Any other activity not covered in a lease agreement typically found in the community.

To be able to better serve persons entering housing programs, it should not be a requirement that persons are subjected to a drug test or breathalyzer upon the intake process or at any point in their housing stay. It should also not be a requirement that persons are forbidden to have alcohol in their apartment (i.e. refrigerator checks for alcohol) if the program participant is over the legal drinking age of 21 in New York State.

Requiring an in-person interview prior to being admitted to the program to determine eligibility is not Housing First.

Requiring participants to go through a non-Housing First Transitional Housing prior to entering a "Housing First" Permanent Housing program is not Housing First and is not prioritizing those beds for the chronically homeless.

Recognizing that Housing First and prioritizing those who may be harder to serve may be challenging on front line staff, staff should be receiving motivational interviewing, trauma-informed care, and any other training to support the client and themselves in doing this work. Opportunities for these types of training are regularly sent out from the HHC list serve. Please contact the CoC Coordinator, Melissa Marrone, at melissa.marrone@dfa.state.ny.us to be added to this list serve to receive this communication and for any questions, comments or concerns regarding this process.

A current, "real-time" vacancy list can be found on HMIS. Please contact the CoC's HMIS Administrator, Sarah Schutt, at sarah.schutt@dfa.state.ny.us to receive an HMIS license and for any needed training regarding this process and any additional HMIS trainings.

Participant Eligibility:

HUD Chronic Homeless Definition:

For all dedicated/prioritized chronically homeless units, participants must meet the chronically homeless definition as stated in Definition of Chronically Homeless final rule which is:

(a) A "homeless individual with a disability," as defined in section 401(9) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360(9)), who:

i. lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter; and

ii. Has been homeless and living as described in paragraph (a)(i) continuously for at least 12 months or on at least four separate occasions in the last 3 years, as long as the combined occasions equal at least 12 months and each break in homelessness separating the occasions included at least 7 consecutive

nights of not living as described in paragraph (a)(i). Stays in institutional care facilities for fewer than 90 days will not constitute as a break in homelessness, but rather such stays are included in the 12-month total, as long as the individual was living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or an emergency shelter immediately before entering an institutional care facility;

(b) An individual who has been residing in an institutional care facility, including a jail, substance abuse or mental health treatment facility, hospital, or other similar facility, for fewer than 90 days and met all of the criteria in paragraph (a) of this definition, before entering the facility;

i. A family with an adult head of household (or if there is no adult in the family, a minor head of household) who meets all of the criteria in paragraph (a) or (b) of this definition (as described in Section I.D.2.(a) of this Notice), including a family whose composition has fluctuated while the head of household has been homeless.

The HUD Chronic Homelessness Final Rule can be found online:
https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Defining-Chronically-Homeless-Final-Rule.pdf

HUD Homeless Definition:

(1) Individuals and families who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes a subset for an individual who is exiting an institution where he or she resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or a place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution;

(2) Individuals and families who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence;

(3) Unaccompanied youth and families with children and youth who are defined as homeless under other federal statutes who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition; or

(4) Individuals and families who are fleeing, or are attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member.

The HUD Homeless Definition with recordkeeping requirements can be found here:
https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/HomelessDefEligibility%20_SHP_SPC_ESG.pdf

For all non-dedicated/prioritized CH PSH/TH units that are CoC and ESG funded, participants must meet the homeless definition and have a disability.

Severity of Needs:

Units will be prioritized for people meeting the chronic homeless definition or participants with the highest severity of service needs which means an individual for whom at least one of the following is true:

i. History of high utilization of crisis services, which include but are not limited to, emergency rooms, jails, and psychiatric facilities; and/or

ii. Significant health or behavioral health challenges, substance use disorders, or functional impairments which require a significant level of support in order to maintain permanent housing.

iii. For youth and victims of domestic violence, high risk of continued trauma or high risk of harm or exposure to very dangerous living situations.

This Severity of Needs criteria is a directive by HUD Notice CPD 16-11 titled Prioritizing Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness and Other Vulnerable Homeless Persons in Permanent Supportive Housing dated July 25, 2016 can be found online: https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/notice-cpd-16-11-prioritizing-persons-experiencing-chronic-homelessness-and-other-vulnerable-homeless-persons-in-psh.pdf

Orders of Priority:

(a) First Priority– Individuals and Families who are Experiencing Homelessness with a Disability with Long Periods of Episodic Homelessness and Severe Service Needs and a High Assessment Score

- An individual or family that is eligible for CoC Program-funded PSH who has experienced fewer than four occasions where they have been living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation or an emergency shelter but where the cumulative time homeless is at least 12 months and has been identified as having severe service needs and a VI-SPDAT score of 8 or higher.

(b) Second Priority–Individuals and Families who are Experiencing Homelessness with a Disability with Severe Service Needs.

- An individual or family that is eligible for CoC Program-funded PSH who is residing in a place not meant for human habitation or an emergency shelter and has been identified as having severe service needs. The length of time in which households have been homeless should also be considered when prioritizing households that meet this order of priority, but there is not a minimum length of time required. The VI-SPDAT score should also be an 8 or higher.

(c) Third Priority—Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with a Disability Coming from Places Not Meant for Human Habitation or Emergency Shelter Without Severe Service Needs.

- An individual or family that is eligible for CoC Program-funded PSH who is residing in a place not meant for human habitation or emergency shelter where the individual or family has not been identified as having severe service needs. The length of time in which households have been homeless should be considered when prioritizing households that meet this order of priority, but there is not a minimum length of time required. The VI-SPDAT score should be a 4 or higher.

(d) Fourth Priority–Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with a Disability Coming from Transitional Housing.

- An individual or family that is eligible for CoC Program-funded PSH who is currently residing in a transitional housing project, where prior to residing in the transitional housing had lived in a place not meant for human habitation or emergency shelter. This priority also includes individuals and families residing in transitional housing who were fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and prior to residing in that transitional housing project even if they did not live in a place not meant for human habitation, an emergency shelter prior to entry in the transitional housing. The VI-SPDAT score should be a 4 or higher.

A unit will be held for participants who have already been accepted to the program regardless of move-in status participants and will not be disqualified if they are able to secure a temporary housing situation in the interim wait period. However, the case will be discussed in the Coordinated Entry Committee monthly meeting when the client has been absent from contact for thirty days.

Only clients who are permanently housed with subsidy will be taken off of the list. Clients who have not been seen will remain in the list. Projects are not required to keep units vacant indefinitely while waiting for an identified eligible individual or family to accept an offer of PSH. Street outreach and shelter providers should continue to make attempts to engage those persons that have been resistant to accepting an offer of PSH and these individuals and families must continue to be prioritized until they are housed.

Participants who have already been enrolled in the program and moved into their apartment will retain their apartment unless it has been vacated without notice for more than 30 days.

The CoC and recipients of CoC Program-funded PSH must comply with the nondiscrimination provisions of Federal civil rights laws, including, but not limited to, the Fair Housing Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, and Titles II or III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, as applicable. See 24 C.F.R. § 5.105(a).

Onondaga County Single Point of Access (SPOA) -

The Onondaga County Department of Adult and Long Term Care Services (DALTC), has an OMH funded SPOA process to prioritize access to OMH residential and case management services for OMH priority high need individuals. OMH funded residential and specialized care coordination services is for designated high need persons with Serious and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI). OMH SPOA eligible individuals meet SPMI criteria as follows:

Have a primary diagnosis of serious mental illness (current mental illness diagnosis as per the DSM-5) and experience substantial impairments in functioning due to severity of their clinical condition, i.e. mental illness for an extended duration on either a continuous or episodic basis, and also meet one or more OMH high need, priority criteria: is being discharged from psychiatric center or specialized residential program; has high Medicaid costs, forensic population, i.e. from or recently in a correctional facility or under court ordered treatment, or is staying at shelter or unsheltered.

Referrals for OMH housing are triaged according to OMH and County priority factors; these include frequent user of service (FUSE), transition age youth, risk, stage of change and the number of service systems the person is/has encountered. The SPOA Team considers data from HMIS when reviewing applications for OMH funded programs. All OMH eligible housing applicants receive a housing recommendation that fits their level of acuity and stage of change. Applications for OMH residential and housing programs are routed to the program that best fits the person's choice, needs, priority level, availability, and cost.

Priority applications for Assertive Community Treatment (ACT Team), Forensic, and Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) are fast tracked and assigned to a provider/care manager.

Several OMH funded supported housing beds are designated as Housing First and set aside for the most housing challenged ACT level OMH SPMI clients who have no other housing options. Individuals may have predetermined priority status via the SPOA data base disposition history and community provider input. Every effort is made to avoid episodes of homelessness.

Applicants not eligible for OMH SPOA programs are redirected to alternate providers. For housing programs which are jointly funded by both OMH and HUD, SPOA assures that the applicant meets the OMH priority criteria, and the housing provider is responsible for determining HUD/CoC priority level via the Coordinated Entry process and assessment score.

Homeless Prevention -

At the time that a person who is experiencing homelessness or at risk of being homeless apply for assistance, s/he is also screened for eligibility into other welfare and assistance programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Temporary Assistance and other financial assistance programs.

The CoC's Local Departments of Social Services (LDSS) provide many aid programs that assist county residents in staying in their own home and thus serves as the first point of access for homelessness prevention services. Other best practices, such as attempting diversion from the homeless shelters, have been standard practice at LDSS for many years.

County ESG funds prevention programs in Onondaga County focusing on those facing issues such as eviction, including back rent and security deposits. Onondaga County Department of Social Service – Economic Security is required to conduct face-to-face interviews within 24 hours within clients being placed into shelters which has proven effective in diverting people from shelters. There is an exception for domestic violence victims and direct hospital discharges.

There are two programs in Onondaga County that are dedicated to homeless prevention: Catholic Charities Homeward Connection and Salvation Army Homeless Prevention Services. Both programs provide short term case management, support and advocacy, and referrals for housing related assistance to prevent homelessness.

There are two programs in Oswego County that are dedicated to homeless prevention: AmeriCorp provides case management services to people at Oswego County Opportunities, Oswego County DSS, Catholic Charities and Oswego County Probation, AmeriCorp's volunteers are located at each one of the agencies listed above to provide direct services to homeless consumers. Clients must be TANF eligible and services provided include security deposits, back rent payments, and mattresses funded by FFFS wrap-around funding. Services can be accessed at any of the locations listed above.

Emergency Shelters

The Emergency Shelter System in the CoC is currently composed of 11 providers; a total of 505 year round beds. Placements can also be made at LDSS contracted hotels/motels if there is no appropriate shelter available. The level of support services available to participants varies greatly from program to program. The length of stay is generally expected to be less than 30 days; extensions may be granted at some shelters in some circumstances.

Access to Emergency Shelter: Information on how to access Emergency Shelter is available 24 hours a day/7 days a week:

Onondaga County -

- Going directly to Onondaga Department of Social Services (DSS) during regular business hours (8AM – 4PM);
- Calling 2-1-1;
- Vera House Domestic Violence Hotline – 315-468-3260 (For DV only);
- Syracuse Booth House (Youth) – 1800-660-6999

Currently, there is "no wrong door" (multiple entry points) into the emergency shelter system. The largest single point of entry is the Onondaga County Department of Social Services – Economic Security (DSS-ES). Homeless persons must be approved for placement by DSS before entering the program. To be obtained in the following ways:

- Person(s) experiencing homelessness must go to the 2nd floor of the Civic Center, located at 421 Montgomery Street between 8AM and 4PM and be screened for eligibility by the Emergency Housing unit.
- You may call the DSS Call Center at 315-435-2700 for information.
- After hours, weekend and Holiday placements can be made by calling 211.
- If determined to be eligible, a placement will be made at one of the emergency shelters or a hotel/motel placement can be made if an appropriate shelter bed(s) is not available.
- While in shelter the participant must fulfill all DSS requirements provided to them in writing; i.e. – housing search, getting additional documentation for public benefits eligibility determination, etc.
- If denied an emergency shelter placement or placement is terminated before permanent housing is accessed, a fair hearing may be requested by calling the Fair Hearing Unit at 315-435-2585 or toll-free 1800-342-3334.

Emergency shelters include: Catholic Charities Men's Shelter, Catholic Charities Dorothy Day House, The Salvation Army Emergency Family Shelter, The Salvation Army Women's Shelter, The Salvation Army Barnabas Shelter, The Salvation Army Booth House, Rescue Mission Transformations and Vera House Emergency Shelter (DV only).

People experiencing homelessness access these programs by:

- Calling or going directly to the shelters to find out about bed availability;
- Calling 2-1-1;
- For Vera House Emergency Shelter (DV only), please call 315-468-3260.

Oswego County Emergency Shelter Access:

There is currently no emergency shelter located in Oswego County with the exception of a domestic violence shelter for women and children. Oswego County DSS is located at 100 Spring Street in Mexico, NY. People who go to Oswego DSS and are eligible for emergency shelter will be placed into hotel/motels, rooming houses, SAF shelter for victims of domestic or sexual violence, or host homes for youth under age 21. Homeless persons access these programs by:

- Going directly to DSS;
- Present at any Oswego County Opportunities building:
  - Oswego Location: 18 East Cayuga Street Oswego, NY 13126
  - Fulton Location: 239 Oneida Street Fulton, NY 13069
  - Or by calling: 315-342-1600 or 1-877-342-7618
- Present at Catholic Charities at 365 West 1st St., Fulton, NY or by calling 315-598-3980

After hours, weekend and holiday placements are determined through an eligibility assessment and may be made by calling Oswego County Opportunities Crisis Hotline: 315-342-1600 or 1-877-342-7618.

Cayuga County Emergency Shelter Access:

The only emergency shelter located in Cayuga County is Chapel House for single men with the exception of a domestic violence shelter for women and children. Cayuga County DSS is located at 160 Genesee St, Auburn, NY 13021. People who go to Cayuga DSS and are eligible for emergency shelter will be placed into hotels/motels. People experiencing homelessness may access these programs by:

- Going directly to DSS
- Calling Fingerlakes 211

Permanent Supportive Housing:

There are 1,411 Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) beds funded by the CoC, in which 127 are dedicated to chronically homeless which is 9% of the total PSH units. All non-dedicated chronically homeless PSH projects have committed to prioritize 100% of their turnover beds to serve chronically homeless clients.

Our current percentage of chronically homeless individuals and families in our CoC is approximately 11%. If there is a PSH bed open will be prioritized for the chronically homeless.

There are several non-CoC funded PSH programs. These include ACR Health HOPWA, Rescue Mission Gifford Place Independent Living Program, YMCA, CNY Services The Hawthorne & Susan's Place TH, and the Veterans Administration has HUD VASH Vouchers for Veterans, Oswego County Opportunities Backstreet Apartments, and Oswego County OMH Division of Mental Hygiene Supported Housing. Many of these programs have separate eligibility requirements.

Rapid Rehousing:

There are currently a total 215 Rapid Rehousing beds funded in this CoC through The Salvation Army (CoC and ESG Funded) and Catholic Charities (ESG funded).

Prior to rental assistance, the apartment must pass the necessary inspections (habitability, and visual lead for families & pregnant individuals) and a one year lease must be provided. The rent for the apartment must also be within Rent Reasonableness Guidelines and not exceed the Fair Market Rent. Short to Medium Term financial/rental assistance may be provided. Amounts may vary depending on household need. The length of rental assistance should be determined by the client's need and should not be longer than 24 months. The percentage of rent will be scaled if client and caseworkers determine that a briefer stay is more appropriate. The client portion does not exceed 30% of their income. A

household is eligible for case management services up to six months following 24 months or less of rental assistance.

In order to receive CoC RRH:

1. Participants must meet HUD homeless definition.
2. Household incomes less than 30% of AMI for ESG program and less than 200% of the federal poverty guidelines for CoC program.
3. Employment eligibility may also be considered for rapid rehousing.

Transitional Housing (non-youth):

There are no longer any transitional housing funded by the CoC. There are several non-CoC Transitional Housing Programs in Onondaga County: Chadwick Residence, Rescue Mission Willing to Work, The Salvation Army Women's Shelter Apartment, YMCA Residence and the YWCA Transitional Residence. The Veterans Administration has the Veterans Grant Per Diem (GPD) program for transitional housing for Veterans.

Oswego County Opportunities has Mental Health Transitional Living (MHTL), Arbor House Community Residence and the Supportive Living Program for people with substance use disorders and SAF program for people fleeing domestic violence.

The Auburn Rescue Mission has transitional housing for families. Cayuga-Seneca Community Action Agency has transitional housing for people fleeing domestic violence.

Individuals or families must meet the HUD homeless definition to be eligible for many of these programs.

Transitional Housing for Youth:

Program Summary and Eligibility:

As previously mentioned, there are no longer any transitional housing funded by the CoC. The Salvation Army Syracuse Area Services has three transitional housing programs for youth, one of which is a pregnant and parenting program, which are all ESG funded. Oswego County Opportunities called the PATH program for homeless youth. Cayuga Seneca Community Action Agency has one transitional housing program for youth.