

**Department of Human Services
Homeless Services RFP
Questions & Answers**

How many housing units are there in our system for the participants of the Café?

For a person to be considered for housing, a person will need to complete a coordinated entry assessment. There are no units specifically set aside for the persons utilizing the Café.

How many people are currently on our list for housing? There are currently 77 people on our Permanent Housing Clearance Housing list. This has historically been higher, however the reduction in shelter beds has affected this number.

What is the process to get into housing? Once in our Homeless Management Information System (Coordinated Entry completed and entry to shelter) a referral is automatically generated to the Permanent Housing Clearance Housing. If the person is street homeless a manual referral can be made by the Coordinated Entry or Outreach Worker once Coordinated Entry is completed.

Are there conditions for housing? If so, what are the conditions? Each Permanent Supportive Housing has its own requirements. All our Permanent Supportive Housing programs, except Rapid Rehousing, the person must have a Severe Mental Illness and/or Co-Occurring disorder. The person also must have a Severe Mental Illness that would meet disability criteria set by Social Security Administration. We also have Permanent Supportive Housing programs specifically targeted for persons who are verified chronically homeless through our Homeless Management Information System and Division of Adult and Family Services; to be eligible for Rapid Rehousing requires a person to be homeless (street or shelter). Rapid Rehousing is a short-term program.

Are there Safe Haven shelters that provide a home environment for mentally ill and chronically homeless people? We do not have "Safe Haven" shelters; however, we serve persons with mental illness, and persons who are chronically homeless in our two overnight shelters as well Life Center and Wesley House.

What organizations currently manage the housing process? How do they work with other referring organizations? Is there productive collaboration? Once a homeless individual completes a Coordinated Entry and then has an episode open an emergency shelter an automatic referral is sent to our Permanent Housing Clearinghouse which is managed by Division of Adult and Family Services. Once the referral is received in the Permanent Housing Clearance Housing, they are on our housing list and placed in appropriate housing based on a priority score (Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool). The Permanent Housing Clearinghouse works with Shelter Case Manager's from all our shelters to obtain needed documents to place persons in housing. There is collaboration with all agencies. We also meet weekly except for the 4th Friday of the month to discuss our chronic homeless population, and we meet on the fourth Friday of the month to discuss all our Transitional Housing/Permanent Housing openings. We also use this time to allow providers to discuss challenging clients or circumstances to solicit feedback to help keep the client stably housed.

What are the specific goals of the Request for Proposal? Daytime services? Evening case management? Overnight emergency shelter?

The goal of the Request for Proposal is to provide Café services, manage a low barrier shelter and provide Case management.

What is the budget of the Request for Proposal? Are there different budgets for each of the above components? A budget was not provided in the Request for Proposal, there would be one budget for all three components.