



## Housing Stabilization Services



## Housing Stabilization Services

A new Medicaid benefit available July 2020 to help people with disabilities and seniors find and keep housing.

# Goals of the services



Support an individual's **transition** to housing



Increase **long-term stability** in housing



**Avoid** future periods of homelessness or institutionalization

Medical Assistance recipient who is 18 years old or older

Disability or  
disabling  
condition



Housing  
instability



Need for services  
due to limitations  
caused by the  
individual's  
disability



Eligibility for Housing Stabilization Services

# Disability/Disabling Condition

- Aged, blind, or disabled as described under Title II of the Social Security Act (SSI/SSDI)
- People determined by a medical professional to have any the following conditions:
  - Long-term injury or illness
  - Mental illness
  - Developmental disability
  - Learning disability
  - Substance use disorder

- Proof of disability:
  - Professional Statement of Need (currently used for housing support)
  - Medical Opinion Form
  - Proof of receipt of SSI or SSDI
  - Other forms of disability documentation to be determined

# Housing Instability

- Meets Minnesota's definition for homeless
- At-risk of homelessness
- Currently transitioning or have recently transitioned from an institution or licensed or registered setting
- Eligible for waiver services

Housing instability can be documented by:

- Professional Statement of Need
- MnCHOICES assessment (for persons with a need for Long Term Services and Supports)
- Coordinated Entry assessment (for persons experiencing homelessness)

# Assessed need for services

- Requires assistance due to their disability in one of the following areas:
  - Communication
  - Mobility
  - Decision-making
  - Managing challenging behaviors

Assessed need for services can be documented by:

- Professional Statement of Need
- MnCHOICES assessment (for persons with a need for Long Term Services and Supports)
- Coordinated Entry assessment (for persons experiencing homelessness)

Same as housing instability

# Eligibility Review: System Flow

## Submit

- **HSS Providers** submit eligibility documents and assessment outcomes into state run eligibility system.
- Current option is an online form with attachments.

## Review

- DHS staff will review documents and then notify provider if the recipient's application has been approved or denied.
- If denied, a notification form will be sent to person seeking services and providers with details of why and how to resolve where possible.

## Bill

- Once a HSS provider receives approval they will bill through MNITs portal for all Fee for Service recipients.
- All other billing submissions will be based on recipient's Managed Care Organizations.





## Services and Requirements

# Housing Stabilization Services.

## Transition

- Helps people **plan** for, **find** and **move** to homes of their own in the community

## Sustaining

- Supports a person to **maintain** living in their **own home in the community**

# Housing Consultation

- A new planning service available through Housing Stabilization Services that provides a person-centered plan for **people without Medicaid funded case management**.
- The housing consultant updates the plan annually or more frequently if the person requests a plan change, experiences a change in circumstance or wants to change housing stabilization provider.

# Home and Community Based Service: Person Centered Plan requirements

Everyone receiving Housing Stabilization Services will be required to have a *person-centered service plan*. The person-centered planning process must:

- Be driven by the individual,
- Include the person's strengths, interests, wants as well as what supports they need, and
- Help the person make an informed choice about their housing stabilization service provider.

# Who does the person centered plan?

## Current roles required to complete plan:

- Waiver case manager
- Targeted case manager (Adult Mental Health, Child Mental Health, Vulnerable Adult/Developmental Disability, Child Welfare)
- Senior care coordinator

## New service for people **who do not have a Medicaid case manager or care coordinator** (Senior):

- Enrolled Housing Consultation provider



# Home and Community Based Service requirements

# Home and Community-Based Services: Settings Requirements

Person must be living in or planning to transition to a setting that is:

- **Integrated** in and support full access to the greater community
- Protect **rights of privacy, dignity and respect**, and freedom from coercion and restraint
- Optimize autonomy and **independence** to make life choices
- **Choice** in services and supports and who provides them and
- Must have a **person-centered service plan**.

*Provider-controlled settings must meet additional requirements*

# Home and Community-Based Services: Provider controlled setting requirements

1. Person must have a lease or lease equivalent.
2. Each individual has privacy in their sleeping or living unit:
  - Units have entrance doors lockable by the individual, with only appropriate staff having keys to doors.
  - Individuals sharing units have a choice of roommates in that setting.
  - Individuals have the freedom to furnish and decorate their sleeping or living units within the lease or other agreement.
3. Individuals have the freedom and support to control their own schedules and activities, and have access to food at any time.
4. Individuals are able to have visitors of their choosing at any time.
5. The setting is physically accessible to the individual.



# Home and Community-Based Services: Conflict of interest requirement

## Assessment

- Health professional (physician, NP, social worker, etc.) OR
- LTCC certified assessor OR
- Trained CES assessor

## Housing-focused plan

- Case manager OR
- Enrolled Housing Consultation provider

## Housing Transition and Sustaining Services

- Enrolled Housing Stabilization Services provider

May be same provider

# Home and Community-Based Services: Conflict of interest requirement (cont.)

A conflict of interest exception is required for a provider agency to do the assessment/plan and transition/sustaining service **for the same person**.

Conflict of interest exceptions are only for provider shortage by:

- geographic area
- cultural/language specific providers
- Providers will submit an exception request to DHS to determine if they can waive the conflict of interest.

# Housing Stabilization Services— Fee for service rates

- Transition = \$17.17 per 15-minute unit
  - Limit of 150 hours per transition
- Sustaining = \$17.17 per 15-minute unit
  - Limit of 150 hours annually
- Consultation = \$174.22 per session
  - At enrollment and then annually OR if major change in circumstances OR upon request of recipient
  - For enrolled Housing Consultation providers only (case managers will not be able to bill)

DHS will contract with **Managed Care Organizations (MCO)** to provide Housing Stabilization Services for their members.

Providers interested in providing Housing Stabilization services to people enrolled in an MCO must contract with and seek payment from the MCO.



## Impact on Other Services

# Housing Stabilization Services and other services

- HSS will duplicate
  - **Housing Access Coordination** in 1915(c) waivers—these will be removed from waivers, and recipients will access through state plan. People will transition onto housing stabilization services at their annual renewal with their waiver case manager.
  - Recipients will NOT be allowed to receive HSS and the following services at the same time: **Relocation Service Coordination, Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), Moving Home Minnesota (MHM)**

# Housing Stabilization Services and other services

HSS will partially duplicate **Housing Support Supplemental Services**

- Recipients receiving **Housing Support- Supplemental Services** in community settings will have a supplemental service rate adjustment of 50% in July **2021**

# Housing Stabilization Services and other services (cont.)

- HSS will NOT duplicate these services. If more intensive housing-related services are needed, clients receiving these services should be referred to HSS. A person can receive these services and HSS.
  - ARMHS
  - Targeted Case Management (TCM) (not Housing consultation)
  - 1915(c) waiver services (not Housing consultation)
  - Semi Independent Living Services (SILS)
  - Behavioral Health Homes (BHH)
  - Healthcare care coordination (e.g., through Substance Use Disorder reform services or CCBHC)
- Housing-related grant programs: Adults who are in a grant-funded program and eligible for HSS should be referred to HSS, but may continue to also receive grant-funded services if those services fall outside those covered by HSS (e.g., support with CD recovery).

# Accessing services



Eligible Person

## Assessment:

1. PSN
2. MnChoices/ Long Term Care Consultation (LTCC)
3. Coordinated Entry Assessment

## Plan:

1. Housing Focused Person Centered Plan ( Housing Consultant / Targeted Case Manager)
2. Community Services and Supports Plan (Waiver Case Manager)
3. Coordinated Care Plan

## Housing Stabilization Services Provider Submits:

1. Assessment
2. Plan
3. Documentation of disability.

## Eligibility Review:

1. Provider notified through MNiTs that they can begin working with person.



# Time for Questions

Thank you!

Visit our [webpage](#) Contact us at: [dhshousingstabilization@state.mn.us](mailto:dhshousingstabilization@state.mn.us)

Sign up for our mailing list to stay updated about our program [here](#).