



# Special Needs Housing

## RECOMMENDED FY19 BUDGET

\$22,295,260

## FULL TIME EQUIVALENTS

70.50

UMA AHLUWALIA, DIRECTOR

## FUNCTION

The vision of the staff of Special Needs Housing (SNH) is a community where all persons have access to safe, affordable housing and the opportunity to achieve a higher quality of life. The mission of SNH is to make homelessness a rare, brief, and non-recurring event by operating from a Housing First philosophy. Housing First recognizes that people are most successful when they have choice in housing and seeks to eliminate barriers such as sobriety requirements or treatment compliance. SNH provides a full continuum of services including housing stabilization, homeless diversion, and permanent housing; and employs evidence-based and promising practices. The mission cannot be achieved without collaborating with public and private partners through the Interagency Commission on Homelessness. Special needs populations include veterans, individuals and families, persons with behavioral health challenges, individuals with developmental disabilities, and transitioning youth and seniors with disabilities experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

## PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Amanda Harris of the HHS - Special Needs Housing at 240.777.1179 or Joshua Watters of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.777.2768 for more information regarding this department's operating budget.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

### Homeless Family Services

Homeless Family Services provides emergency shelter and transitional housing to families with children experiencing homelessness. Services include intake and assessment, case management, and housing location to link families experiencing homelessness to housing, behavioral health, financial, and legal programs. All services are housing-focused with a goal of connecting families with permanent housing as quickly as possible and removing systemic barriers to accessing housing and services. All homeless service providers participate in the Coordinated Entry System which uses a coordinated assessment to prioritize families for housing.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY16	Actual FY17	Estimated FY18	Target FY19	Target FY20
Percentage of households remaining housed at least 12 months after placement in permanent supportive housing	96	95	93	93	93

FY19 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
<b>FY18 Approved</b>	<b>3,032,888</b>	<b>9.90</b>
Increase Cost: Homeless Services Grant	121,740	0.00
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	921,263	2.00
<b>FY19 Recommended</b>	<b>4,075,891</b>	<b>11.90</b>

**Notes:** In FY18, the Special Needs Housing Division was reorganized. As a result, services for homeless single adults and homeless families were separated into distinct programs, homeless diversion and homeless prevention services were separated into distinct programs, and the Healthcare for the Homeless Program was transferred from the Public Health Services Division to the Special Needs Housing Division. The multi-program adjustments above reflect this reorganization.

## ☀ Chief Special Needs Housing

This program provides leadership and direction for the administration of Special Needs Housing, and advises the Interagency Commission on Homelessness (ICH) and Montgomery County Continuum of Care (CoC).

FY19 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
<b>FY18 Approved</b>	<b>406,830</b>	<b>3.00</b>
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	323,423	0.00
<b>FY19 Recommended</b>	<b>730,253</b>	<b>3.00</b>

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## ☀ Permanent Housing

Permanent Supportive Housing provides permanent housing and long-term support services to single adults and families. The single adult or head of household must have a documented disability. Flexible and individualized case management services are provided to support clients in maintaining housing and fostering independence. All permanent supportive housing programs use a Housing First approach where housing is offered without preconditions such as sobriety or treatment compliance.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY16	Actual FY17	Estimated FY18	Target FY19	Target FY20
Average number of households receiving a rental subsidy each month	1,668	1,720	1,720	1,720	1,720

FY19 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
<b>FY18 Approved</b>	<b>4,715,700</b>	<b>15.00</b>
Re-align: Adjust Handicap Rental Assistance Program Funding to Reflect Historical Trends	(40,781)	0.00
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	969,725	(4.50)
<b>FY19 Recommended</b>	<b>5,644,644</b>	<b>10.50</b>

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## ☀ Homeless Single Adult Services

Homeless Single Adult Services provides emergency shelter, street outreach, safe haven, and transitional housing to adults experiencing homelessness. Services include street outreach and engagement, comprehensive needs assessments, and case management to link persons experiencing homelessness to housing, behavioral health, financial, and legal programs. All services are housing-focused with a goal of connecting adults with permanent housing as quickly as possible and removing systemic barriers to accessing housing and services. All homeless service providers participate in the Coordinated Entry System which uses a coordinated assessment to prioritize individuals for housing.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY16	Actual FY17	Estimated FY18	Target FY19	Target FY20
Average length of stay in days by homeless families in emergency shelter	91	92	90	90	90
Number of families placed in emergency shelters	129	124	124	124	124

FY19 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
<b>FY18 Approved</b>	<b>7,809,226</b>	<b>3.00</b>
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	(3,457,095)	(1.00)
<b>FY19 Recommended</b>	<b>4,352,131</b>	<b>2.00</b>

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## ☀ Prevention

Homelessness Prevention provides intake and assessment for County households that are experiencing a housing-related emergency. The program's focus is on crisis intervention and prevention. State and County grants are provided to prevent evictions and utility cut offs. Additionally, referrals are made for income support programs such as Temporary Cash Assistance. Case Management services are provided to help at-risk households develop and implement plans to prevent a future housing crisis.

FY19 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
<b>FY18 Approved</b>	<b>5,197,456</b>	<b>34.60</b>
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	1,082,868	4.50
<b>FY19 Recommended</b>	<b>6,280,324</b>	<b>39.10</b>

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## ☀ Diversion

Homelessness Diversion provides conflict resolution, mediation, financial assistance and case management to County residents experiencing homelessness. The program's focus is to divert individuals and families from the homeless system by finding creative resolutions to their housing crisis. Unlike homelessness prevention services, diversion is only offered to households who do not

have an active lease.

FY19 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
<b>FY18 Approved</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	150,000	0.00
<b>FY19 Recommended</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>0.00</b>

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## Healthcare for the Homeless

Healthcare for the Homeless provides medical and dental services to individuals experiencing homelessness in emergency shelters, street outreach, and transitional housing. Medical services are also provided to individuals and families served in permanent supportive housing programs. Healthcare for the Homeless is committed to reducing the health disparities for people experiencing homelessness by providing low barrier access to services and reducing re-admissions to hospitals.

FY19 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
<b>FY18 Approved</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	1,062,017	4.00
<b>FY19 Recommended</b>	<b>1,062,017</b>	<b>4.00</b>

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## PROGRAM SUMMARY

Program Name	FY18 APPR Expenditures	FY18 APPR FTEs	FY19 REC Expenditures	FY19 REC FTEs
Chief Special Needs Housing	406,830	3.00	730,253	3.00
Homeless Family Services	3,032,888	9.90	4,075,891	11.90
Permanent Housing	4,715,700	15.00	5,644,644	10.50
Homeless Single Adult Services	7,809,226	3.00	4,352,131	2.00
Prevention	5,197,456	34.60	6,280,324	39.10
Diversion	0	0.00	150,000	0.00
Healthcare for the Homeless	0	0.00	1,062,017	4.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,162,100</b>	<b>65.50</b>	<b>22,295,260</b>	<b>70.50</b>