



Shelter Plus Care Program Description

Shelter Plus Care is a program designed to provide rental assistance to homeless persons with disabilities, (primarily those with severe and persistent mental illness, chronic problems with alcohol and/or drugs, or diagnosed with AIDS or a related disease) as a bridge to self-sufficiency. Participants may choose their residence from units where the landlord agrees to accept the established housing subsidy and abide by the Shelter Plus Care program guidelines. This rental assistance will provide the ongoing financial support needed to maintain the chosen residence as the participant works toward establishing greater financial stability and self-sufficiency. Individuals and families pay approximately 30% of their monthly-adjusted income toward the rent. The Shelter Plus Care participant must have a need for and agree to participate in supportive services to remain on the program. The intensity of participation in supportive services will vary according to the needs of the participants, however, the participant must meet with their primary service provider at least once per month. Failure to participate in supportive services and lack of progress toward establishing self-sufficiency may result in the participant being terminated from the program.

Who is eligible? The Shelter Plus Care program is designed to provide rental assistance to adults who are homeless and suffer from one of the targeted disabilities. To be eligible, these adults must be experiencing at least one of the listed criteria for homelessness and suffer from one of the targeted disabilities:

Homelessness

- Sleeping in places not meant for human habitation; or Sleeping in emergency shelters

Targeted Disabilities

- Severe and Persistent Mental Illness
- Chronic alcohol and/or drug abuse
- AIDS or related disease.

At this time the City of Topeka can only accept referrals from the following agencies:

Valeo Behavioral Health Care and Recovery Center
Topeka Aids Project
Veterans Administration
TMAP

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