

Supportive Housing Options (SHO) Pilot Project

Issue: Through the Section 811 Project Based Rental Assistance Demonstration Program grant award, people with disabilities moving from institutions to the community will have an opportunity to receive a rental subsidy. This rental subsidy will make it possible for people with very low incomes to access an apartment, condo or house affordably. Unfortunately, the current service structure for people with developmental disabilities (i.e. 24 hour CILA – 168 hours of service/week or Home Based Services – 15 hours of service/week) makes it challenging for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities to take advantage of the Section 811 program.

Proposal: Create a Supportive Housing Options (SHO) Pilot Project in order to develop a service structure that will support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities moving from institutions into consumer controlled apartments, condos or houses.

Participants: Persons with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities transitioning from State Operated Developmental Centers, Intermediate Care Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled or Ligas PUNS List class members chosen for service moving into consumer controlled apartments, condos or houses in the community (a person can choose to have one or two roommates, each with their own bedroom and lease or live alone, but group homes are not eligible sites for Section 811 rental subsidies).

Providers: Providers of intellectual and developmental disabilities services who are in good standing with the IDHS-Division of Developmental Disabilities and approved by the Director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities.

Location of Projects: Metro East (Edwardsville, Collinsville, Alton), Champaign-Urbana, Bloomington-Normal, Chicago and the Collar Counties.

Support Model: The Intermittent CILA service package (with a base line of 15 hours of service per week) plus additional hours of service per week based on individual need. During the first year, the service package use will be reviewed quarterly and requests for changes (more or less) will be submitted to the IDHS-Division of Developmental Disabilities. The Providers and Participants will work with the Division of Developmental Disabilities and the Statewide Housing Coordinator to develop a set of flexible service options that will support people in a consumer controlled apartment, condo or house.

The Room and Board rate will be removed from the Intermittent CILA service package and the participant will retain control of their income. Financial management services will be part of the enhanced service package (either through a payee or through a budgeting and financial management consultant).

Timeframe: The project has begun. Potential participants (both residents and providers) have been or are being approached. As Section 811 units come online, the participants will apply for the housing opportunities that they are interested in. Once a participant finds housing, the project implementation phase will begin. DDD staff and Statewide Housing Coordinator will hold bi-weekly conference calls with providers to trouble shoot, course correct and learn. Once the Self-Directed Services option is approved

by CMS, we will explore whether or not the Supportive Housing Options Pilot Project can be merged into this new service option. If not, we will develop the needed changes and service definitions to be created within the 1115 Waiver process or in a new State Plan Amendment.

Communication: Division of Developmental Disabilities staff, including the Director, will be a vital member of the Supportive Housing Options Pilot Project. Ongoing communication with providers will be handled during bi-weekly conference calls. The Statewide Housing Coordinator will meet monthly with the Division Director in order to report on the status of the project.

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