



State of Vermont
Agency of Human Services
Office of the Secretary
280 State Drive
Waterbury, VT 05671
www.humanservices.vermont.gov

Jenney Samuelson, *Secretary*
Todd W. Daloz, *Deputy Secretary*

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Dear Interested Stakeholder:

As you may know, the Agency for Human Services (AHS) received approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to implement a Medicaid Supportive Housing Assistance Benefit Program (Program) that provides Medicaid coverage for services that Vermonters need to transition into and maintain residency in permanent supportive housing successfully. The purpose of this letter is to provide information about the status of our work and plans for implementing these services.

Medicaid enrollees ages 18+ who are eligible for full Medicaid State Plan benefits and meet *at least 1* health need and *at least 1* risk-based criteria are eligible for the Program. The AHS anticipates a high demand for these services. To manage Program resources, it may be necessary to implement an enrollment cap, prioritization criteria, and to establish a waitlist and monitoring process. AHS has contracted with the Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) and its partner, Mathematica, to assist with the design and implementation of the Program.

TAC will support Vermont in maximizing current supportive housing resources across systems of care by reducing duplication and promoting program alignment to enable an effective and coordinated system for accessing supportive services, rental assistance, and housing options. The TAC team has started work on producing a comprehensive inventory of current supportive housing resources in Vermont and conducting a statewide stakeholder engagement process to increase visibility and awareness of the initiative and to gain valuable feedback from key stakeholders to inform Program design and implementation. The team is conducting interviews with key partners and planning a series of in-person stakeholder Listening Sessions, virtual town halls, and an online survey over the next several weeks. TAC will also work with AHS to develop clear operational materials prior to the program launch in 2024.

With the TAC team, we value stakeholder engagement and participation, focusing efforts to gain input from people experiencing or who have experienced homelessness. We are establishing a communication strategy to promote transparency that will announce opportunities for stakeholder participation and provide regular updates on our progress. Please see our website for more information and updates: <https://humanservices.vermont.gov/our-work/programs-services/housing-stability>

Thank you for your interest in the Medicaid Supportive Housing Assistance Benefit Program. The AHS values your contribution to implementing a benefit that assists individuals experiencing homelessness or housing instability who have the highest acuity needs to achieve and maintain stable housing.

Sincerely,

David Riegel, Director of Housing Policy and Planning

Monica Ogelby, Medicaid Director

