

Permanent Supportive Housing – CoC 507

PSH is permanent housing coupled with supportive services that are tailored to the needs and preferences of participants. Participants have leases, have rights and responsibilities, and may remain in PSH with no imposed time limits. Housing includes scattered site or facility based setting. Central Florida follows a Housing First and harm reduction philosophy. Participants are matched to programs pending a recordkeeping review, supporting documentation is verified, and program availability is determined.

Chronic homeless history must be documented within our CoC in order to qualify.

Program Description	Essential Program Elements	Time Frame	Population	Supporting Documentation	Desired Outcomes
<p>Rental assistance with supportive services.</p> <p>Serves persons homeless on the streets or shelter and have been homeless for at least 12 months within Orange, Seminole, or Osceola.</p> <p>Participants must also have a disability.</p> <p>Income is not required, however participants may not exceed 50% AMI.</p> <p>Programs serve participants in either a facility based setting or scattered site.</p>	<p>Case Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance with housing search and move-in process • Linkage to mainstream benefits, community resources, medical services, peer to peer supports, • Services are voluntary to the clients and are not a condition of maintaining housing or services. <p>Rental Assistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides rental subsidy to make housing affordable • Assistance with deposits, utilities, furnishing (some projects may provide directly, others may coordinate with other services.) • Ensure coordination between landlord/property management. <p>Health Care Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellness services • Physical and Mental health services <p>Hard Reduction and Housing First</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All supportive housing embraces & practices Harm Reduction and Housing First • Incorporates proven best practices and evidence based models to support client’s housing stability • Programs do not require sobriety or medication/treatment compliance as a condition of obtaining or retaining housing or services. 	<p>No time limits.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High needs individuals or Head of household with multiple barriers to housing that are literally homeless (streets/ES) for at least 12 months and have a disability. <p>Prioritizing: Most severe disabling conditions with longest history of homelessness (VI-SPDAT score of 10+)</p> <p>Unique Populations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veterans • Families with children where Head of Household meets criteria 	<p>Chronic Homeless History:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 months of homeless history on streets or shelters documented in HMIS or by other services providers who have witnessed participant’s living conditions <p>Disability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSI/SSDI award letter or written verification from medical provider <p>Income: SSI/SSDI, zero income affidavit, or past 60 days of earned income</p> <p>ID</p> <p>Social Security Card</p>	<p>Outcome: Clients will remain in permanent housing.</p> <p>Indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 85% of clients will remain in PH for 12 months. • 50% of participants increase or maintain income within 6 months of being housed in PSH • 50% of participants obtain or maintain mainstream benefits within 6 months of being housed.

Guidance on Supporting Documentation for PSH

PSH criteria break down	Documentation Standards
<p style="text-align: center;">Homeless History</p> <p>Chronic homelessness defined by HUD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 months or more living on streets or emergency shelter consecutively or with at least 4 episodes within 3 years. (Homelessness can include time spent in jails, hospitals, or mental health facilities where the participant stayed 89 days or less and entered from streets/ES.) <p>Long Term Homelessness defined locally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 months or more living on streets or emergency shelters (including jails/hospitals) but may date back beyond 3 years and may have less episodes. This is a more flexible definition that our local community has adopted. <p>*Clients approved with this homeless history are not able to be referred to HUD funded programs. Currently only City of Orlando and some Orange County programs accept this definition. <i>All 12 months of homelessness must be from Orange, Seminole, or Osceola County in order to qualify.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Disability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants must have a disability verified by SSA or licensed medical provider. <p>*Exception: Downtown Orlando Outreach staff are approved to verify disabilities for the hard-to-engage participants living on the streets of downtown Orlando. Clients with this disability verification are not able to be referred to HUD funded programs.</p>	<p>Homeless History can include any or all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter entries in HMIS (must be emergency shelter projects, not TH.) • Service transactions in HMIS by exclusive homeless providers (Outreach, Shelters, laundry/shower services from drop in centers.) • Contacts in HMIS by street outreach who have witnessed living conditions of participant. • Written verification from service providers who have witnessed living conditions of participant. • Written verification from local businesses who have witnessed living conditions of participant. • Records from hospitals, jails, mental health facilities where participant stayed 89 days or less (and outreach worker can confirm participant entered from streets/ES.) • *Exception – in the event that a service provider does not follow up with verification requests after several attempts were made, participant may self-certify to up to 3 months of their own homeless history. <p>Disability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSI or SSDI award letter (if participant is 65 or older, award letter must reflect benefit is for disability not retirement.) • Written Verification from medical provider licensed to diagnose and treat condition. • Written verification from Downtown Street Outreach team (for unsheltered downtown Orlando participants only.)

Where PSH is not an appropriate option, Navigators should attempt alternative housing solutions prior to a referral to CES. Some alternative housing solutions might include relocation to family/friends, referral to ALF, assisting client in roommate matching with unsubsidized rentals, or connecting to one-time assistance.