



CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Bridge Subsidy Program

Overview

The Bridge Subsidy Program provides eligible clients from the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health (DMH), with assistance paying rent and access to supportive services. The Subsidy helps eligible participants transition from institutions, structured settings, and homelessness to independent integrated housing or comparable permanent housing resources. The purpose of the program is to provide permanent supportive housing linked with flexible community-based support services to promote recovery and hope, encourage self-sufficiency, enhance stabilization and self-awareness, heighten independence, and increase community re-entry successes.

Services

The Bridge Subsidy program provides program participants with housing that is comfortable, safe, and financially manageable. Catholic Charities services work to:

- Certify tenant's income and determine rent portion
- Conduct apartment unit inspections in accordance with HUD Housing Quality Standards
- Negotiate rent on tenant's behalf to ensure that they are paying the Fair Market Rate
- Execute Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) contracts
- Process fund requests including rent payments, security deposits, utility deposits, and other special authorized payments
- Mediate disputes following requirements as outlined on landlord leases and HAP contract agreements, in partnership with Mental Health Agency Care Managers
- Assist program participants at risk of eviction
- Provide updates and information to DMH regarding individuals cases and trends
- Provide technical assistance as needed

Program Eligibility

Referral to the program is conducted through community mental health centers contracted by the Division of Mental Health. The requirements include a diagnosis of serious mental illness or co-concurring mental illness and substance abuse diagnosis. Those eligible must also be one or more of the following:

- Resident of long-term care facilities (nursing homes)
- At risk of being placed in a nursing home or state hospital as a long-term patient
- A resident of any DMH funded, supported, or supervised residential setting
- Participating in an Individual Care Grant (ICG) Program
- A Department of Children and Family Services ward, who is aging-out of guardianship
- Homeless as determined by the Department of Mental Health

Program participants must have a current household income at or below 30% of the area median income as defined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: (312) 655-7466



CATHOLIC CHARITIES AGENCY-WIDE SERVICES

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Senior Services
Senior Housing
Substance Abuse
Veterans Services

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Archdiocese of Chicago**
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Find ccofchicago on:    

THE MISSION OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Catholic Charities fulfills the Church's role in the mission of charity to anyone in need by providing compassionate, competent and professional services that strengthen and support individuals, families and communities based on the value and dignity of human life. *In order to remain faithful to our mission, Catholic Charities is guided by these core values: Respect, Compassion, Competence, and Stewardship.*