

## **CoC NY513 – Ontario, Wayne, Seneca and Yates Counties Written Standards**

### **Requirements of All CoC and ESG Funded Programs**

- Programs must coordinate with other homeless programs throughout the CoC
- Programs must have written policies and procedures and consistently apply them to all participants
- Program entry requirements should have minimal barriers to accessing housing/services
- Programs must participate in the Coordinated Entry system; agree to prioritize beds/services for homeless persons with the highest needs as determined by the coordinated assessment tool, the VSPDAT for Families or Individuals
- Programs must participate in HMIS, unless a DV program
- Programs must agree to participate in the Coordinated Assessment/Entry System when fully implemented for all housing components in the CoC
- Programs must have a formal process for terminating participants and consistently apply to all participants
- Programs that serve households with children
  - Must have a staff person assigned to be the education liaison to insure that children are enrolled in school including pre-school and Head Start programs and that transportation is provided. Will contact the homeless liaison at the school to insure that children are able to participate in all activities and have appropriate school supplies and clothing
  - Family may not be rejected by the program based on the age/gender of the children in the household
- Programs may not engage in religious activities as part of the programs with CoC or ESG funding. These activities can be held, but may not be required in order to be a program participant.

### **Occupancy Standards**

- Buildings/units that are utilized for homeless housing must meet all local building and health codes
- Buildings/units must have working smoke detectors in all areas and near sleeping areas
- Food preparation areas should be clean and have sufficient space to prepare and store food in a safe and sanitary way
- Must be accessible in accordance with Fair Housing and Americans with Disability requirements
- All mechanical systems for lighting and HVAC must be in working order
- Must provide adequate sleeping arrangements and have sufficient security and storage space for participant's belongings.

### **Requirements for Housing Components**

#### **Emergency Shelters**

- Participants must meet the HUD definition of homelessness
- Length of stay in emergency housing should generally be less than 30 days
- Initial entry point is generally at the local County Dept. of Social Services
- DV shelter is accessed through 24 hour hot-line: 1-866-343-8808 (Spanish and English)
- Must meet all occupancy standards even if shelter is provided through vouchers to local hotels/motels

- Focus of services provided should be moving persons to permanent or the next appropriate housing type as quickly as possible.

### **Transitional Housing**

- Participants must meet the HUD definition of homelessness
- Length of stay may not exceed 24 months
- Intake/assessment should screen for participants whose level of services needs cannot be met through Rapid Rehousing programs or by making placement directly into permanent housing with little or no support services
- Focus of services should be moving participants to permanent housing and increasing their capacity to remain stable in permanent housing
- There must be a written lease/rental agreement for a minimum of one month
- VSPDAT score is in the 4 – 7 point range

### **Rapid Rehousing**

- Participants must meet the HUD definition of homelessness and must be in emergency shelter or unsheltered prior to entry into the program
- Units utilized for Rapid Rehousing must meet Housing Quality Standards and visual lead test for families with children under the age of 6 or where household member is pregnant
- Length of stay will average three to six months but cannot exceed 24 months
- There must be a written lease for a minimum of one year
- Rents for units must meet Rent Reasonableness standards and not exceed FMR
- Participant rent and length of time rental assistance is provided will be determined based on their individual situation.
- If security deposit is paid on behalf of the participant it is returned to the participant
- VSPDAT score is in the 3 – 6 point range

### **Permanent Supportive Housing**

- Participants must meet HUD definition of homelessness and must be in emergency shelter, safe haven or unsheltered prior to entry into the program
- Units utilized for Permanent Supportive Housing must meet Housing Quality Standards and visual lead test for families with children under the age of 6 or where household member is pregnant
- All existing PSH programs must agree to prioritizing chronically homeless for all turnover beds
- Per current HUD requirements, all new or reallocated PSH projects must exclusively serve the chronically homeless
- There will be no maximum length of stay
- There must be a written lease for a minimum of one year
- Rents for units must meet Rent Reasonableness standards and not exceed FMR
- Participant rent may not exceed 30% of the household income
- VSPDAT score is more than 7 points