

solutions

newsletter of



News and Events

Florida Institute on Homelessness and Supportive Housing

From Dream to Reality Creating Permanent Solutions for All



ANNUAL CONFERENCE

October 5-7, 2016
Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld*



After much deliberation between the organizing committees of the Florida Supportive Housing Coalition (FSHC) and the Florida Homeless Coalition the Florida Institute on Homelessness and Supportive Housing was held as planned. Despite the weather the pre-conference was very successful and many of the workshops were provided. Thanks to the plenary presenters and technology all but one of the plenaries went on as planned. We wish to thank all the presenters and attendees who were able to attend as well as those who were unable to attend but had taken the time and interest to get involved in the conference. Many of the conference presentations are available on the [conference website](#). Check under each workshop or plenary for **Presentations**.

The Florida Supportive Housing Coalition thanks all the hardwork of its board members and the Florida Homeless Coalition. Stayed tuned for next year's Save the Date.



AGENCY FOR HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION

On October 27, 2016 the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) submitted the Housing Services Waiver Amendment to The

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). CMS has accepted the application and has posted the Waiver Amendment on its website. As required by federal regulations the amendment must be posted in order to allow for public comment. The public comment period ends December 15, 2016 at which time CMS will make a decision to approve or disapprove AHCA's request. If approved Florida Medicaid will allow qualified Medicaid managed care plans to provide persons with severe mental illnesses and substance abuse disorders transitional housing services, supportive housing services, crisis housing services, and peer support services in AHCA Area 5 serving Pinellas and Pasco Counties and AHCA Area 7 serving Orange, Seminole, Brevard and Osceola Counties. The pilot program is designed to increase coordination and referrals between systems that fund housing and provide behavioral health services.

[Download the 1115 Waiver amendment here](#)



The Department of Children and Families has posted policy document (Guidance 29) providing direction for managing entities regarding a \$3.5 million project for a transitional voucher program. The voucher program was created to assist individuals in state hospitals who could be discharged if community services and housing assistance was available. Individuals to be served include persons ready to transition from FACT teams, state hospitals, and individuals who are homeless.

[Download Guidance 29](#)



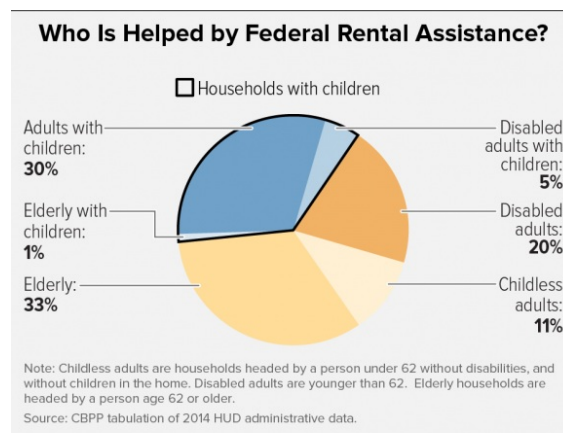
Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC) has issued RFA 2016-115 SAIL Financing for Smaller Permanent Supportive

Housing Developments for Persons with Special Needs. This Request for Applications (RFA) is open to Non-Profit Applicants proposing new construction or acquisition and Substantial Rehabilitation to create new Permanent Supportive Housing for Persons with Special Needs as defined in Section 420.0004(13). The Application Deadline is 11:00 a.m., Eastern Time, on Thursday, January 19, 2017. Access the RFA and online Application at <http://www.floridahousing.org/Developers/MultiFamilyPrograms/Competitive/2016-115/>. [Read more...](#)

FHFC held a workshop on Friday, November 18, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. to discuss RFA 2016-116, Housing Credit Financing for the Preservation of Existing Affordable Multifamily Housing Developments. The RFA is expected to be issued on Friday, December 16, 2016. Applications are expected to be due on Friday, February 3, 2017. Information is posted at <http://www.floridahousing.org/Developers/MultiFamilyPrograms/Competitive/2016-116/>

Applications for RFA 2016-106 Homeless Housing Assistance Loan Demonstration Program are available at : [RFA 2016-106 Applications Submitted Report](#).

Chart Fact



CENTER ON BUDGET AND POLICY PRIORITIES | CBPP.ORG

Welcome New Members

The Florida Supportive Housing Coalition Board welcomes its newest members:

[Alkermes](#)

[Ocala Housing Authority](#)

Florida State Agencies Legislative Budget Requests

Several state agencies have included some elements of supportive housing programs in their Legislative Budget Requests (LBR) submitted to the Governor for Fiscal Year 2017-18. Governor's staff will be reviewing these LBRs in developing the Governor's budget proposal to the Legislature. The Governor will release his budget late January or early February.

The Department of Children and Families has requested funding for several projects that include funding for services and/or housing assistance for permanent supportive housing as part of the proposal. Proposals include a housing assistance program in Alachua County, increased funding for the managing entity housing initiative, and others. [Read more...](#)

The Florida Housing Finance Corporation has requested \$76,466,138 from the State Housing Trust Funds for State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL) Program and \$197,488,597 for the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program.

The Agency for Health Care Administration has requested \$10.6 million to continue the 1115 Waiver Housing Pilots. (See Agency for Health Care Administration article above)

Resources

HUD published a final rule amending its fair housing regulations in order to protect individuals who experience harassment in housing. The courts and HUD have long considered harassment based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, family status, and disability (the "protected classes") to be prohibited under the Fair Housing Act. Standards for assessing harassment claims, however, had not been formalized in regulation. To address this lack of standards, the rule adds to the existing regulation a definition the terms "quid pro quo", harassment and "hostile environment", examples of such harassment, specifics about how HUD would evaluate complaints, and clarified standards for "direct liability." [Read more...](#)

Center on Budget Policy Priorities released several articles on housing. Alicia Mazzara [noted](#) the widening gap between rents and renter income in 2015. Will Fischer [cited](#) a new report supporting a tax credit to reduce housing cost burdens for renters. Ehren Dohler [described](#) a study finding that housing vouchers are the most effective tool for families seeking to escape the hardships of homelessness. An [updated](#) chart shows how federal housing spending is poorly matched to need. Hannah Katch reviews the value of [Medicaid as an Essential Partner for Supportive Housing](#).

A federal report released November 17, 2016 calls for a shift in the way America addresses substance addictions, finding one in seven Americans will face such a disorder. *"Facing Addictions in America: The Surgeon General's Report on Alcohol, Drugs and Health* marks the first report from a surgeon general dedicated to substance addictions and calling for humane, cost-effective community treatment. [Read more...](#)

HUD released [The 2016 Annual Homeless Assessment Report \(AHAR\) to Congress](#). A total of 549,928 individuals were homeless on a single night in January 2016, representing a 3% decline in homelessness from January 2015 and a 15% decline from 2007. The report is based on the annual Point-in-Time (PIT) count. [Read more of this article at NLIHC](#).

These and other resources are posted at www.fshc.org. See Resources

Looking for Housing

The best resource in Florida is Florida Housing Finance Corporation's online search FloridaHousingSearch.org. FloridaHousingSearch.org currently has more than 165,000 affordable rental units registered in its database by county, by major cities, and by rent. Ten thousand of the listed units are currently available. The public can search for available rental properties online 24 hours a day or by contacting the toll-free, bilingual search support call center at 1-877-428-8844 (TTD/TTY: 7-1-1) Monday through Friday, 9 am to 8 pm EST. The call center staff can assist you in conducting searches, as well as provide affordable housing resources information and referral services.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

2017 Legislative Session Information

Committee dates for the upcoming 2017 Legislative Session below:

- Monday, December 5th – Friday, December 9th (House of Representatives)
- Monday, December 12th – Friday, December, 16th (Senate)
- Monday, January 9th – Friday, January 13th
- Monday, January 23rd – Friday, January 27th
- Monday, February 6th – Friday, February 10th
- Monday, February 13th – Friday, February 17th
- Monday, February 20th – Friday, February 24th

Regular Session convenes March 7, 2017

Join or Renew

Become a member of the Florida Supportive Housing Coalition. Your membership will help FSHC fulfill its mission of expanding affordable supportive housing in Florida. FSHC has just begun a new year. Join now and receive a full year of benefits. Become a Sustaining Member and get one free registration to the October Institute.

[Visit the FSHC website to download a membership form.](#)



Donate

Don't want to become a member but support the mission? Consider donating. FSHC accepts donations through Paypal.

[Visit the FSHC website here to donate.](#)



Subscribe

Subscribe below if you are interested in receiving future newsletters but are unable to become a member at this time.

[Click here to subscribe to Solutions newsletter.](#)



Thank You Corporate Partners



If you have any questions or would like to submit articles for *Solutions* contact karen@fshc.org.



Florida Support Housing Coalition | 850-545-0818 | [Email](#) | www.fshc.org

FSHC | P.O. Box 11242, Tallahassee, FL 32302

[Unsubscribe](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by karen@fshc.org in collaboration with



Try it free today