

Integrating health services with housing in Connecticut

2022 Health-Related Services Convening

**Addressing Oregon's Housing Crisis through HRS, SHARE, ILOS: CCO
Efforts and Opportunities**

September 22, 2022

Targeting new Medicaid services and non-Medicaid housing subsidies to people who are likely to experience higher than expected medical utilization (including hospitalization) will result in:

- 1) Higher quality of life
- 2) Reduction of unnecessary medical care, including hospitalization
- 3) Overall cost neutrality or savings

People with lived experience

State Partners

Department of Social Services

Department of Mental Health
and Addiction Services

Department of Housing

Office of Policy and
Management

Connecticut Housing and
Finance Authority

Department of Developmental
Services

Beacon Health Options

Community partners

Coalition to End

Homelessness

Corporation for Supportive
Housing

Partnership for Strong
Communities

- 1) Medicaid Eligibility (Husky A, C or D)
- 2) Age Criteria - 18 or over
- 3) At risk of meeting criteria below without receipt of CHES services:
 - Homelessness or homeless prior to nursing home;*
 - Minimum Comorbidity Index Score based on diagnoses;*
 - Losing functional improvement due to a history of receiving behavioral health services to address needs resulting from a mental health or substance use disorder.*
- 4) Medically necessary – 2 critical needs
- 5) Includes coverage under Special Income Group for people at nursing home level of care

- 1) Supportive Housing Assessment and Care Plan Development
- 2) Pre-Tenancy Supports including
 - Assistance Finding Housing*
 - Independent Living Skills Development*
 - Income, Employment, Education and Vocational Activities, includes SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR)*
 - Medicaid and Behavioral Health Care Coordination*
- 3) Tenancy Sustaining Supports including
 - Independent Living Skills Development*
 - Income, Employment, Education and Vocational Activities*
 - Medicaid and Behavioral Health Care Coordination*
- 4) Transportation/Mileage

This service provides direct support to individuals to assist the person in moving from homelessness, higher level of care, or risk of homelessness into housing in the community. These pre-tenancy supports include but are not limited to:

- Conducting a tenant screening and housing assessment;
- Assisting participant with development of an individualized housing support plan;
- Assisting participants with obtaining IDs, housing voucher and security deposit applications, apartment search, lease compliance education, assistance with tenant inspection, and lease signing;
- Assisting participant with negotiating landlord/neighbor relationships and understanding and maintaining rights of tenancy;
- Assisting participant with obtaining income, employment, education and vocational activities

This service supports individuals to maintain tenancy once housing is secured. These tenancy support services include:

- Support with annual Medicaid redetermination process and housing recertification;
- Providing early identification and intervention for behaviors that may jeopardize housing, such as late rental payment and other lease violations;
- Education and training on the role, rights and responsibilities of the tenant and landlord;
- Coaching on developing and maintaining key relationships with landlords/property managers to reduce risk of eviction;
- Advocacy and linkage with community resources to prevent eviction when housing is, or may potentially become, jeopardized;
- Coordinating with the tenant to review, update and modify their housing support and crisis plan on a regular basis to reflect current needs and address existing or recurring housing retention barriers;

This service area includes the mileage related to transporting and/or accompanying individual to appointments in the community as well as mileage for transportation to ensure access to employment and community activities.

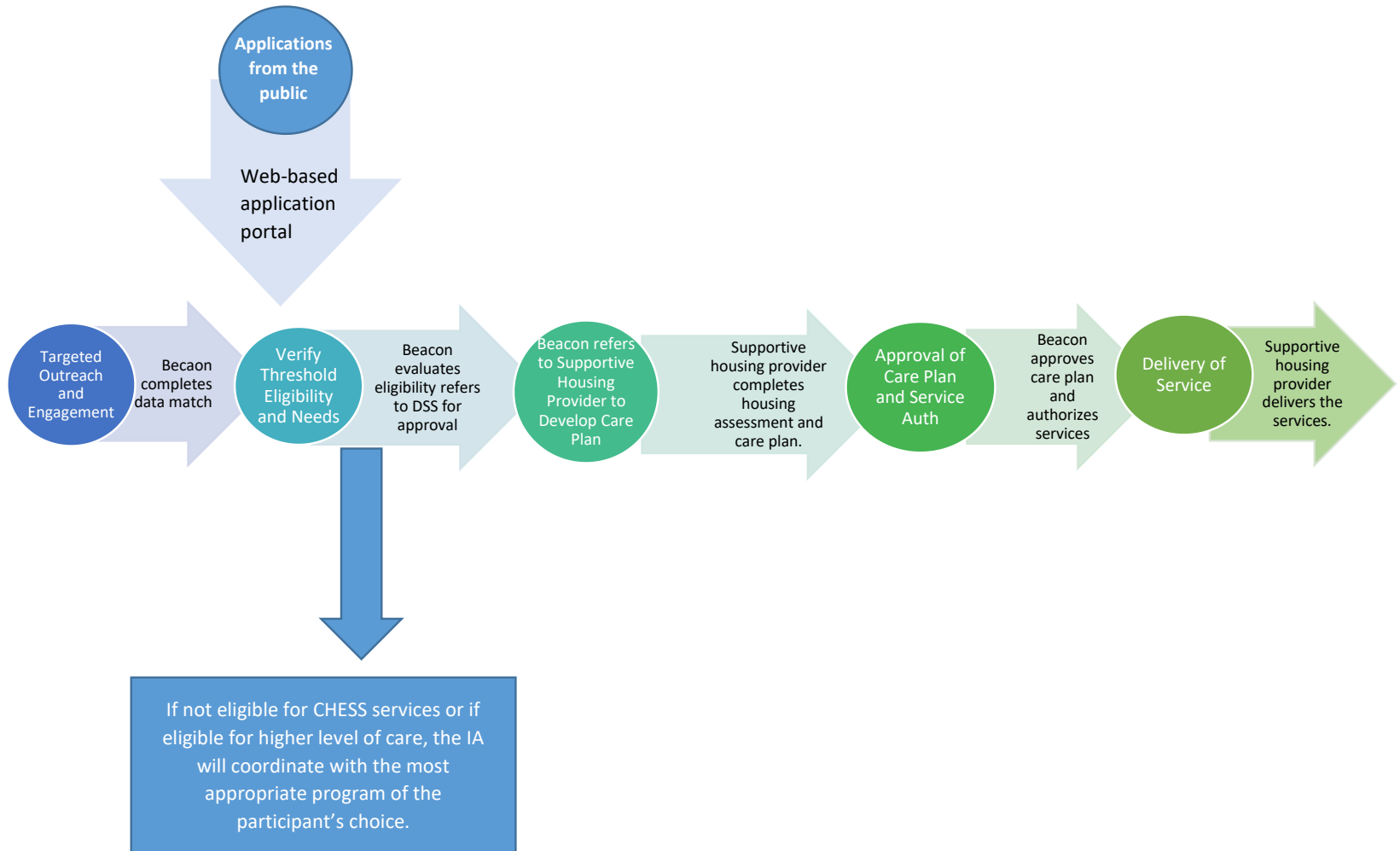
- Can begin pre-tenancy with authorization from Beacon
- Mileage reimbursement for transporting participants to Medicaid covered appointments still under NEMT benefit, not CHES.
- This service may also include bus passes.
- Billing - \$1000 per year per client

Medicaid services are coordinated with available housing subsidies which include state funded rental assistance and HUD vouchers

The estimated cost of each state voucher is \$10,500 per year

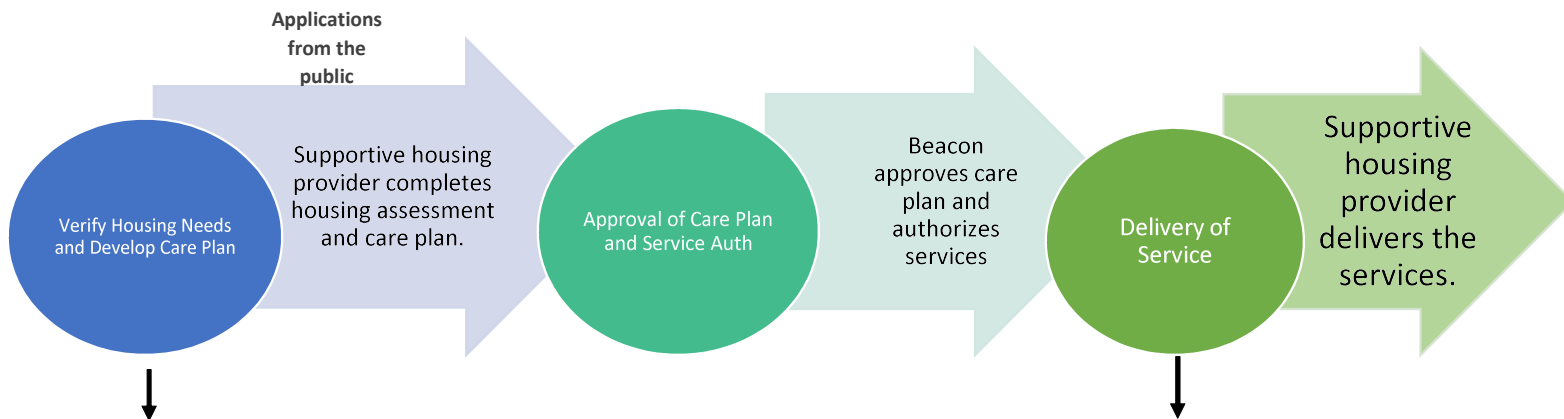
Through the initial evaluation of CHES, the state committed to dedicating 850 subsidies

CHESS Client Flow Overview



CHES Conflict of Interest

Supportive Housing Provider Firewalls



The firewall is required by federal Medicaid regulations. The person who verifies housing needs and develops the care plan must not be the same person who is assigned to deliver the service to that participant. No communication between these 2 staff is permitted.

Pre-tenancy payout based on time between approved service plan and 'move-in'

90 days - \$648

120 days - \$448

150 day - \$329

180 day - \$249

Housing Sustaining

Payment of \$43.62 each month for attainment of each of the 4 performance metrics

- **Medical Appointment**
 - Evidence that appointment is scheduled first three quarters
 - Fourth Quarter: Evidence of claim for visit
- **Activities Aligned with Plan**
 - Case notes document activities approved in plan at least monthly first three quarters
 - Fourth Quarter: Minimum score of 26 across 5 domains of the Housing Assessment (Housing and Lease; Arrears and Debts, Income and Benefits; Support Services and Resources, Health) and not decreased by more than one point from previous assessment
- **Evidence that member is still housed**
- **SNAP benefit is active**

CHES Status Update:

- First application August 27, 2021
- Outreach to 1049 individuals predicted to meet eligibility criteria
- 2294 applications received as of July 31, 2022;
- 2057 met pre-screen requirements
- 412 determined eligible and are working with a supportive housing provider
- 263 have an approved person-centered recovery plan
- 30 people are housed