



Georgia Department of Behavioral Health &
Developmental Disabilities

Kevin Tanner, Commissioner

Office of the Commissioner

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RE: Annual Report on Housing Placements and Unmet Housing Needs for FY2023
and FY2025

House Bill 1013 (2022 legislative session) mandated that DBHDD provide an annual report to the Office of Health and Strategy and Coordination regarding successful housing placements and unmet housing needs.

DBHDD has compiled the information using internal data sourced from the Office of Supportive Housing. Please note that DBHDD is not the State Housing Authority. This report is comprised only of information available through the administrators of behavioral health housing programs. Below, you will find the key data points for both Fiscal Year (FY) 23 and the anticipated housing needs for FY25:

Housing Needs Met:

- Georgia Housing Voucher Program (GHVP) Housing Entries: *629 households*
 - During FY23, the PATH program achieved permanent housing for 366 individuals; however, most of those individuals would be included in the above GHVP housing placements, so we will not add this to the 629 total.

Unmet Housing Needs:

- GHVP
 - GHVP Vouchers Issued in FY23: *1,213 households*
 - Of the 1,213 vouchers issued, 584 vouchers did not result in a housing placement due to an inability to find affordable and safe

housing properties that would participate with the voucher program.

- Homeless Population
 - 2,616 individuals of the 5,100 surveyed for housing needs were identified as being homeless and needing a housing placement.
 - Many of those individuals were not eligible for GHVP for various reasons and were therefore not referred or not approved for GHVP. This number is being reported because it still reflects individuals with a housing need in the community.
 - 1,717 individuals were ultimately referred to GHVP in FY23, with 1,213 being approved, as outlined above.
 - Out of the 2,616 individuals identified as needing housing, 629 successfully secured housing through GHVP. This leaves a total of 1,987 individuals with unmet housing needs. Note again that the majority of these individuals are not eligible for GHVP.

For Anticipated Housing Needs in Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25):

- **Anticipated GHVP Vouchers for FY25:** Based on current GHVP data and assuming the continuation of existing conditions, it is estimated that there will be approximately 1,400 GHVP vouchers issued in FY25.
- **Additional Unmet Housing Needs for FY25:** According to housing needs survey data, we anticipate identifying approximately 1,600 individuals who are currently experiencing homelessness and require housing. These individuals, however, may not qualify for GHVP vouchers and will depend on alternative resources for housing support.
- **Supportive Housing Pathways for Transition-Age Youth:** The Office of Children, Youth, and Families (OCYF) emphasizes a significant unmet need for formalized supportive housing pathways tailored to transition-age youth and young adults (TAYA) aged 16-26. This includes youth who have been emancipated, granting them the legal capacity to contract independently.
- **Long-term Housing Needs for System Entrants:** The Office of Addictive Diseases (OAD) underscores that many individuals entering our system have long-term unmet housing needs, particularly those with substance use disorders (SUD). The current infrastructure inadequately addresses this specific group.
- **Growing Demand Across Multiple State Agencies:** Several state agencies, including the GA Department of Corrections, GA Department of Community Supervision, GA Department of Juvenile Justice, GA Department of Human Services, and its Division of Aging, as well as county jail systems and hospital systems across the state, are actively identifying the need for additional housing options to serve vulnerable individuals in the community or support their transition back into the community. The extent of these housing needs in the state cannot be overstated.

Thank you for the opportunity to share this information with you. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to our Director of Legislative Affairs, Michael Polacek, at Michael.polacek@dbhdd.ga.gov.