

*Dedicated to the Health
Of the Whole Community*



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Section D.4..... Description of Target Population to be Served

Consistent with the MHSAs Housing Program regulations, at this housing site we will be serving seriously mentally ill, low-income older adults with severe emotional disorders, who at the time of assessment for housing services meet the criteria for MHSAs services in their county of residence—all of whom are homeless or at risk of homelessness, according to the definitions specified in the application.

Consistent with the County's *Community Services and Support Plan*, the target population to be housed and served in this housing complex will be the following:

1. Primary Care/Public Health/SSA-Involved, Isolated, Homebound, Shut-In, Unserved Mentally Ill, defined as: Individuals who are 55 years of age or older with significant distress or loss of functioning in multiple life domains including, but not limited to: mental health, physical health and well-being; living conditions/family/interpersonal relationships; meaningful activity; and safety from being harmed or harming others in the community. Many have chronic mental illnesses that are exacerbated by aging, long-standing self-neglect, substance abuse, physical decline and other life circumstances. Others may have episodes of severe depression, anxiety or other disabling conditions. Factors that contribute to these conditions include loss of primary relationships, social and cultural isolation, feelings of uselessness and loss of purpose, self-neglect, physical isolation, concerns about physical and emotional safety in the community, and trauma from war or natural disasters. The onset of dementia also has significant impact on mental health, specifically as a contributor to disabling depression and anxiety.

In addition, all qualified tenants must meet one of the following two criteria:

1. Consumers must be users of mental health services at County clinics/contract agencies who are seriously mentally ill clients who do not currently need 24-hour, institutional care but are able to live independently with supportive services. These are consumers who are homeless or at risk of homelessness (according to MHSAs Housing Program Application) and who:
 - a) use outpatient services and are usually dependent on such;
 - b) are able, with support, to manage their Activities of Daily Living and medications in an independent living situation; and
 - c) have severely limited income and are assumed to have a continuing income deficiency for the next 12 months;

(This includes new consumers who have previously been unserved.)

2. Consumers who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and have left a 24-hour care setting and have demonstrated success or completed their stay in a transitional or residential care facility and can move to permanent supportive housing as a next step in their recovery.

Finally, all qualified tenants who are homeless must have completed a Health Vulnerability Index and have been registered in the Housing 1,000 Campaign and be in the top _____% of the most vulnerable homeless.

Note: The staff at the clinic or contract agency can determine which consumers fulfill these criteria and then refer the candidate to MHD according to the Tenant Selection Process.