

Program Overview

The Continuum of Care Housing Assistance Program (formerly Shelter+ Care Program) is an important source of permanent housing assistance to homeless people with disabilities (severe mental illness, chronic substance and/or alcohol abuse, HIV/AIDS, or any combination of these disabilities).

JCHA works in partnership with a network of agencies to reach and assist individuals who are living on the streets, in emergency shelters, or in transitional housing. The goal of the program is to help Continuum of Care Program participants improve self-sufficiency, foster self-determination, and reach their greatest potential.



Seeking Assistance?

Applicants are accepted into the Continuum of Care Program **by referral only**. Please contact a Continuum of Care Partner Agency for a referral.

Learn more:
JCHA.com/continuum-of-care

Program Contact:

Solonia Mack, Supervisor
Continuum of Care Program
Jefferson County Housing Authority
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205-849-0123 ext. 1314



Committed to Providing Safe, Affordable Housing and Ending Homelessness in Our Community

The Jefferson County Housing Authority (JCHA) assists homeless individuals through the Continuum of Care Housing Assistance Program (formerly Shelter+ Care Program).



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Continuum of Care Services

The Continuum of Care Program is designed to provide housing and supportive services to ensure long-term stability for homeless individuals. JCHA coordinates the housing portion of the program and a network of partnering agencies to provide supportive services. A complete list of partnering agencies is listed on the JCHA website at JCHA.com/continuum-of-care-partner-agencies

Together, the organizations are responsible for providing a broad range of services to improve the lives of participants, including:

- Safe, affordable permanent housing
- Ongoing rehabilitation, treatment and counseling
- Food and clothing assistance
- Utility assistance
- Education and employment assistance

Program Eligibility

Eligible participants must be **both homeless and** have either a substance/alcohol abuse problem, severe mental illness, HIV/AIDS (or a related illness), or any combination of these disabilities. The Continuum of Care Program is only available to those who have no identifiable residence and those who lack the resources and support networks necessary to obtain access to housing.

Applicants are accepted into the Continuum of Care Program **by referral only**. Referrals must be made by an approved, partner agency that has entered into a cooperative agreement with the Jefferson County Housing Authority to provide supportive services as part of the Continuum of Care Program. An updated list of approved Continuum of Care Program Referring Partner Agencies is available on the JCHA website: JCHA.com/continuum-of-care

Program Funding & Assistance

The Continuum of Care Program is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). HUD began awarding funds in 1992 to state and local governments and public housing agencies to assist the hard-to-reach homeless population.

Since 1993, JCHA has coordinated the Continuum of Care Program in an effort to end homelessness in Jefferson County and the Birmingham area.

Continuum of Care Program participants pay a portion of their rent in accordance with section 3(a) of the Housing Act of 1937 (30 percent of monthly-adjusted income or 10 percent of monthly gross income, whichever is highest). The Continuum of Care Program grant covers the remaining portion of the participant's rent. Partnering agencies provide supportive services to match 25% value of the rental assistance provided by the HUD grant.

JCHA is responsible for overseeing the local HUD grant funding and coordinating/reporting the partner agencies' (in-kind) matching dollars to this Federal Grant Program. Partner agencies share the costs with JCHA for administering the Continuum of Care Program and are responsible for referring qualified program participants to JCHA for assistance.



*Better Communities, Brighter Futures –
Moving Beyond Expectations!*

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