



Chicago Housing Authority Demonstration Program and Special Initiatives Overview

Transition Aged Youth Demonstration Program (Approved August 2015; Updated Oct 2016)

Overview

Transition Aged Youth is defined as youth transitioning out of foster care or juvenile detention facilities, youth have run away from home or dropped out of school, and youth with disabilities. These youth, aged 18-24 experience a number of challenges on their path to a successful adulthood, including securing access to safe, decent and affordable housing.

The Transition Aged Youth Demonstration Program will utilize up to 50 Housing Choice Vouchers to house youth who are not part of CHA's waitlist and who are currently being served by Homeless Youth Services providers selected through a competitive bidding process through the Department of Family & Support Services.

Purpose Why was this program created?

To provide access to housing for Transition Aged Youth ages 18-24 who need access to or must maintain access to safe, decent and affordable housing. Youth serving agencies are often limited on the duration someone can remain in transitional housing as well as wanting to ensure that youth remain on a path of independence. These youth also have a demonstrated need to continue to engage with a social service provider, in this case, a Sponsor Agency.

Eligibility Who can participate?

Youth must be between the ages of 18-24. As this is part of the Demonstration Program, the eligibility criteria will be defined through DFSS.

Selection How are potential participants selected?

Each applicant agency will define how their participants will be selected for participation and approved by DFSS. DFSS will submit a referral form to CHA.

Housing Where and how will CHA house participants?

Participants will be housed in the private market using a Housing Choice Voucher. This demonstration program is not for Public Housing.

Responsibilities What do participants have to do?

Participants will engage in supportive services with their Sponsor Agency and must comply with their lease and with all HCV requirements as outlined in the CHA's Administrative Plan.

Timeline When will the program take place?

Program implementation will begin after approval from CHA Board until 50 vouchers are utilized.

Updated October 2016

- Specified that the program is up to 50 Housing Choice Vouchers due to elimination of Sponsored Based Program
- Clarified that service providers were selected from a competitive solicitation through the Department of Family & Support Services (DFSS).
- Clarified eligibility is determined through DFSS.
- Clarified that there will be a referral to CHA for participation from DFSS.