

Foundational Community Supports – Transition Assistance Program (TAP)

Program overview

Homelessness is traumatic and cyclical, putting people at greater risk for developing physical and mental health conditions, including substance use disorders.

Foundational Community Supports (FCS) enrollees across the state face financial obstacles to obtaining and maintaining places to call home, especially when exiting inpatient settings. FCS supportive housing (SH) enrollees with behavioral health treatment needs may access this funding opportunity.

The FCS Transition Assistance Program supports FCS SH enrollees take steps to achieve personalized housing goals. Administered by Wellpoint, FCS TAP provides the FCS supportive housing network with flexible funding that can be drawn upon by FCS supportive housing providers working with enrollees. FCS TAP aims to lower and remove financial barriers to housing stability. TAP may also be used to bridge individuals exiting certain inpatient treatment facilities as they await longer-term rental resources.

Background

The Foundational Community Supports (FCS) Transition Assistance Program (TAP) launched in May of 2022. TAP aims to serve Washington's most vulnerable population with complex care needs. TAP supports FCS TAP eligible individuals obtain and maintain safe, stable and affordable housing. Ultimately, FCS TAP contributes to a healthier Washington. FCS TAP has a network of providers under contract through Wellpoint, FCS's third-party administrator (TPA).

Eligibility Requirements

FCS TAP can be accessed by enrollees of FCS supportive housing services across the state who are seeking to transition into the housing of their

choice. The FCS supportive housing program uses evidence-based practices of Housing First and Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) during service delivery. Individuals must be receiving FCS-eligible Medicaid and authorized to receive FCS Supportive Housing (SH) services, to be eligible for TAP.

Duration

Accessing FCS TAP funds require an FCS supportive housing participant to be making a housing transition. FCS TAP offers FCS SH enrollees funding to be used throughout a 12-month period on approved expenditures.

Allowable expenditures

TAP allows providers to cover costs according to established categories listed on the [TAP Quick Reference Guide](#). Common financial barriers to affordable housing, such as application fees, credit check fees, and move-in expenses like first/last month's rent. Deposits, and non-refundable fees can also be covered by FCS TAP.

Key partners

- Wellpoint
- FCS Provider Network
- WA State Department of Commerce
- WA State Department of Health and Social Services
- The Health Care Authority's Hospital Liaisons and Discharge Planners

The Health Care Authority's Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery strongly encourages provider partnerships, collaboration and peer-to-peer knowledge sharing. Coordination with the Health Care Authority's hospital liaisons and discharge planners as well as community-based inpatient treatment facilities, Continuums of Care, shelters, and other entities serving individuals with behavioral health diagnoses ensure FCS enrollees succeed in becoming stably housed. Nurturing these relationships creates linkages between FCS supportive housing services and TAP funds. FCS TAP supports our unhoused neighbors' transition to safe, secure, and affordable housing of their choice.

Budget FY25

The Washington State Legislature appropriated \$3,109,000 of the general fund for State Fiscal Year

2025 to supply individuals enrolled in Foundational Community Supports with short-term housing and rental assistance subsidies.

State fiscal year 2024 Data

In SFY24, TAP actively served FCS Supportive Housing enrollees for three months. During this time, 4,135 expenditures were approved for 2015 individuals across 130 FCS TAP providers working throughout Washington. The total amount of TAP funds expended during SFY24 was \$3,100,454.66.

For more information

Contact: HCADBHRInformation@hca.wa.gov

Maureen Maples

FCS Housing Subsidy Program Manager