

# Foundational Community Supports (FCS)

## Connecting and supporting our most vulnerable populations with targeted Medicaid benefits

The research is clear: unemployment and job insecurity, homelessness, and unstable housing contribute to poor health. Homelessness is traumatic and cyclical. It puts people at risk for physical and mental health conditions and substance use disorders. Similarly, evidence links unemployment to poor physical and mental health outcomes, even with no pre-existing conditions.

FCS, which is [Initiative 3](#) of the [Medicaid Transformation Project](#), offers housing and employment services through targeted Medicaid benefits. These benefits connect and support Washington State's most vulnerable and those with complex care needs.

### What FCS is:

Targeted Medicaid benefits that help eligible clients with complex health needs find and maintain housing and employment through:

- Supportive housing services.
- Supported employment services.

### What FCS isn't:

- Ongoing payments for housing purchase, rental, or room and board.
- Wages or wage enhancements.
- An entitlement.

## Supportive housing services

This benefit identifies people in need, helps them obtain appropriate housing, and provides support so they can maintain housing. Supportive housing services do not replace services that are currently available and do not pay for room and board.

This benefit is demonstrating the positive health effects that safe, secure housing can provide to people in need. To qualify, individuals must be Medicaid-eligible, complete a needs assessment, and fit within at least one of these groups:

- Those who are experiencing chronic homelessness.
- Those who depend on costly institutional care.
- Those who depend on restrictive adult residential care/treatment settings.
- In-home care recipients with complex needs.
- Those at highest risk for expensive care and negative outcomes.

## Supported employment services

This benefit helps people who are Medicaid-eligible and have physical, behavioral, or long-term service needs that make it difficult for them to get and keep a job. These ongoing services include individualized job coaching and training, help with employer relations, and assistance with job placement.

To qualify, individuals must be Medicaid-eligible, complete a needs assessment, and fit within at least one of these groups:

- Disabling conditions that make it difficult to remain employed.
- Significant mental illness, substance use disorder, or co-occurring conditions.
- Needs associated with long-term care.
- Needs associated with teens and young adults.

## Provider reimbursement

Amerigroup is the third-party administrator for supportive housing and supported employment services. Providers must have a contract with Amerigroup to participate in the FCS program.

## Stay informed

- Visit the [Medicaid Transformation Project pages](#) and [FCS pages](#).
- Learn about participating in FCS (as a provider or client) by contacting Amerigroup:
  - Call (844) 451-2828.
  - Visit the [provider website](#) or [client website](#).
- Email questions and comments to [medicaidtransformation@hca.wa.gov](mailto:medicaidtransformation@hca.wa.gov).