

Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH)

Street Outreach and Engagement for Individuals with Behavioral Health Conditions

Overview

The Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) program assists individuals in accessing housing, mental health services, substance abuse treatment, disability benefits, and other services to stabilize them and facilitate recovery. Persistent and consistent outreach and providing services at the individual's pace, are important steps to engage people with serious mental illness who are homeless.

Per the federal legislation PATH 'eligible' means that an individual has a serious mental illness, or serious mental illness and substance use disorder, and is experiencing homelessness or is at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

Authority

The PATH program is administered by the Center for Mental Health Services, a component of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The PATH Program was authorized by the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Amendments Act of 1990.

Budget and Funding

PATH is a formula grant to the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The 2020 federal award for Washington State totaled \$1,329,353. Cash or in-kind match is required of at least \$1 for each \$3 of federal funds.

Key Partners

The HCA's Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) contracts with Behavioral Health Organizations, Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organizations who subcontract PATH services to licensed community behavioral health agencies. In nine locations, the contracts are issued directly with licensed community behavioral health agencies. There is a PATH site in all regional purchasing areas and four locations have two PATH providers due to the large urban or geographical areas.

Oversight

DBHR is the state PATH recipient and administers the project statewide. The BH-ASOs provide local oversight and sub-contract with local, state licensed private, non-profit mental health agencies to provide services directly.

For more information

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[To contact a PATH provider in your region](#)