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Policy on HCCSC Collaboration with Other Systems of Care to Prevent Discharge into Homelessness

It is the responsibility of recipients of Emergency Solutions Grant funds and of recipients of CoC Program funds that are state and local governments to establish and implement discharge policies that prevent people from being discharged from publicly-funded systems of care into homelessness. These publicly funded systems of care include health and mental health care institutions, correctional facilities, and foster care. These systems of care are also subject to various other federal, state, and local regulations and policies that require them to develop discharge plans for people exiting their care.

It is the Continuum of Care's responsibility to coordinate with and/or assist in state and local discharge planning efforts in order to provide those persons responsible for discharge planning at the state and local government levels the benefit of the Continuum's experience in and knowledge of homelessness.

The HCCSC will carry out its responsibility to collaborate with the above-named systems of care by:

1. Providing them with information about housing options available to people being discharged from their care, including information about the Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority, other low-income housing projects, programs providing rental assistance, and, if necessary as a last resort, shelter information;
2. Inviting representatives of these systems of care to HCCSC member meetings and notifying them of other opportunities to connect and collaborate with individuals and agencies addressing housing issues; and
3. Contributing information these systems need when applying for funding to meet the housing needs of those being discharged from their care and providing letters of support for such applications.