

FUNDING ALERT

CMS MAKES AVAILABLE FUNDING FOR BUILDING SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIPS FOR HOUSING FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES RECEIVING MEDICAID SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

On July 15, 2011, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, made available approximately \$2.1 million to fund State Medicaid Agencies to develop sustainable partnerships with State Housing Agencies that will result in long-term strategies to provide permanent and affordable rental housing for people with disabilities receiving Medicaid services and supports in the community.

Specifically, CMS will fund State Medicaid Agencies to engage in one or more of the following housing strategies:

- Strategy 1: Capitalize on new opportunities in HUD's Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities Program. Recent Section 811 authorizes a new and innovative Section 811 option that will allow State Housing Agencies in partnership with State Medicaid Agencies to apply to HUD to administer Section 811 Project Rental Assistance (PRA) funds.
- Strategy 2: Develop a State Housing Agency HOME-funded tenant-based rental assistance program for people with disabilities with receiving Medicaid service and supports in the community that have incomes equal to the value of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. This strategy can be a permanent program or a "bridge subsidy" program that relies on partnerships with local Public Housing Agencies (PHAs).
- Strategy 3: Develop a partnership with a State Housing Agency that is also a PHA that administers a state-wide Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program that includes the creation of a new HCV waiting list preference for people with disabilities with SSI-level incomes receiving Medicaid services and supports in the community.

Funding Available

CMS anticipates making 4 grants to States with individual awards to be \$525,000 for a 12-month period.

Eligible Applicants

Only State Medicaid Agencies are eligible to apply. One application per state, however, the application can propose one or more of the above housing strategies. Applicants are strongly encouraged to include letters of support and memoranda of agreement with major partners.

Application Process

The [full funding announcement](#) can be found online.

Applications must be submitted electronically through grants.gov by **August 15, 2011**. Optional letters of intent may be submitted to CMS by August 1, 2011 at Nichole.Nicholson@cms.hhs.gov