

## **Homelessness Prevention & Re-Housing Program (HPRP)**

### **MaineHousing Initiatives**

#### **Homeless Diversion & Prevention Program**

Individuals and families at imminent risk for homelessness or already homeless will be linked with resources needed for housing stabilization. Housing Retention & Stability Specialists will be located in agencies around the state, helping individuals and families connect with General Assistance, employment and training options, conflict resolution and mediation services, applications for rental subsidies, housing search, and other support services. Short-term rental assistance (up to 3 months) and security deposits, along with other eligible financial assistance activities, will be available.

MaineHousing will contract with sub-grantees to pay the salary, benefits, and travel of the Housing Retention & Stability Specialists for two years. Each specialist will have access to a predetermined amount of financial assistance funds.

#### **Engagement & Housing Stabilization Program for Individuals**

Individuals with apparent or diagnosed mental illness or co-occurring disorders will be served from emergency through stability by service providers who will engage with these individuals, provide case management, and oversee support services with a goal of permanent housing and an adequate support network. Temporary rental subsidies and security deposits, along with other eligible financial assistance activities, will be available to participants. Individuals served in this initiative will be those who have the most significant challenges to becoming stabilized and who tend to use the largest percentage of emergency shelter and other emergency resources.

MaineHousing will contract with sub-grantees for case management positions over two years, including salary, benefits and travel. Each case manager will have access to a predetermined amount of financial assistance funds.

This initiative will involve coordination with DHHS to be certain that individuals who get served will have on-going service support for as long they need it.

#### **Security Deposit Program**

MaineHousing has determined that the most efficient delivery of the Security Deposit Program is to incorporate with the Homeless Diversion and Prevention Program. Funds to assist households (in addition to those listed in the two initiatives outlined above) that will help them transition more quickly from homelessness to stable housing, will be awarded to the sub-grantees that were selected in the Homeless Diversion and Prevention Program and each shelter throughout the state will have access to financial assistance funds for security deposits to assist their homeless clients through the sub-grantee in their geographic area.

#### **Homeless Advocacy Project**

Funds will be provided to Pine Tree Legal Association to continue an eviction prevention project that has a primary strategy of Pine Tree attorneys serving as “lawyer of the day” in several District Court locations when “forcible entry and detainer” (FED) proceedings are scheduled in order to provide legal representation to low-income tenants.