



Ohio Developmental  
Disabilities Council



**“Community Organization  
and Planning – Addressing  
Community Housing  
Needs For All”**

**Webinar**

**October 20, 2021**

# Addressing Community Housing Needs

- Community planning effort to address housing needs of all in each community (seniors, homeless, veterans, independent living centers, low income, citizens with disabilities, etc.)
- Local planning efforts to allocate HUD funds - Involves CDBG, HOME, CHIP, TBRA, etc.
- Ideally, all are “at the table” to identify their needs
- County Boards are asked to become involved because we represent citizens with disabilities as protected class
- Many Boards ignore or don’t realize importance
- Get involved! Funds will be spent, why not for citizens with disabilities!

# Addressing Community Housing Needs

- Entitlement communities have direct allocation
- “Balance of State” – most smaller counties are lumped together with plan administered by Ohio Department of Development Services Agency (DSA)
- Consolidated Plan is put together with priorities decided by DSA
- County Boards should have priorities outlined included statistics to identify needs today and tomorrow
- Communities need to work together collaboratively to address priorities of greatest importance
- Knowledge is key! Inform yourself of Federal, State and Local priorities
- Housing needs will *ALWAYS BE THERE!*

## Collaborative Information for Consolidated Planning

As we have been discussing over the past several months, in order to adequately prepare for a presentation to those who are responsible for the “Consolidated Plan” for your area, it would be helpful to have your County Board of DD collect information about those who are served. Here is a list of informational questions that will require the collection of data:

1. How many individuals and/or their families are served by the CBDD?
2. How many individuals and/or their families (if any) are on the waiting list for services? Please be as specific as possible (i.e. on waiting list for IO waived services, on waiting list for housing, etc.) Do you have an age distribution of those people who are waiting?
3. Are you aware of or have you estimated the number of people who “may” be out there (i.e. people who reside with their families who have never applied for services)? Do you have a way to validate these estimates?
4. Of those served by CBDD, please provide a distribution of who they are by the following categories:
  - a. How many are between birth and 21 years of age?
  - b. Within that group, how many from birth to 6 (pre-school)? How many 7-12? How many 13-18? How many 18-21?
  - c. How many are between 22-59 years of age? Where do they live? (i.e. with family or relatives; small group residence (2-4 people); supported living apartment; larger group residence (greater than 5 people); developmental center? ICF/MR? nursing home? Other?)
  - d. How many are over 60 years of age? Where do they live? (i.e. with family or relatives; small group residence (2-4 people); supported living apartment; larger group residence (greater than 5 people); developmental center? ICF/MR? nursing home? Other?)

5. Of those served by CBDD, how many people over 18 years of age are currently income eligible for a HUD Section 8 Rental Assistance Vouchers?
6. Of those served by CBDD, how many people over 18 years of age (who are income eligible), are on the waiting list for a HUD Section 8 Rental Assistance Vouchers? If you know, how long have they been on the waiting list? If you know, why are they not on the waiting list?
7. Of those service by CBDD, does the CBDD provide a rental subsidy to those served? Do you know how many people to which this rental subsidy is provided?

Again, the intend of this information is to begin collecting data that will assist us in preparing for future resource allocations. Most likely this information will be accessed through those responsible for case management (county services and supports). Collectively it is anticipated that we will advocate for the meeting of “unmet needs”.

From the data collected we hope to assist in looking a future housing needs (i.e. those who are served who are over 60 years of age most likely have aging parents who may need to seek alternatives in the relatively near future; individuals served who are 18-21 years old most likely will be seeking more independent living situations – apartment with a friend – than group residence, etc.). The goal is to know where people currently live and project future housing needs based on data rather than funding sources.

It is also critically important to begin to collect information on the number of people who are income eligible and who are either on the HUD Section 8 Rental Assistance waiting list or should be! If our current estimates hold true, this number state-wide could create an incredible “unmet need” that must be addressed in the Consolidated Planning process, emerging from the local level to state-wide.

We realize all of this takes time from busy people who already have limited availability. Any assistance you can provide would be very much appreciated.

**Regional Planning Board for  
Housing Advisory Committee  
or Consolidated Planning Committee  
Superintendent Testimony**

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

As the Superintendent of the \_\_\_\_\_ County Developmental Disabilities Board (CBDD), I have a responsibility to advocate for the appropriate use of local, state and federal financial resources to meet the needs of \_\_\_\_\_ County citizens with disabilities. Over the past ten (ten) years, we have effectively leveraged local tax levy dollars to build a strong system of support services through the federal Medicaid Waiver program, using approximately \$.40 to gain a \$1.00 of services. Subsequently, under strict federal guidelines, we have been able to meet the needs of \_\_\_\_\_ citizens without having to expand the use of local tax levy funds to meet these needs.

While the successful partnership between local and federal financial resources has greatly contributed to the expansion of needed local support programs, we have failed to utilize the appropriate use of HUD's Federal Rent Subsidies (Section 8 Home Choice Vouchers) to meet the needs of citizens with disabilities in need of access to decent, safe, affordable housing. This program is a partnership between an individual's contribution of 30% of their income toward the areas "fair market rent", with the balance paid by a "rent subsidy" (the voucher).

HUD's requirements, which govern each Public Housing Authority's (PHA) use of Section 8 Vouchers, include two priorities: (1) 100% of all vouchers be directed to individuals/families who earn no more than 50% of the area medium income, which in \_\_\_\_\_ County is \$\_\_\_\_\_/month or \$\_\_\_\_\_/year and (2) 75% of all vouchers be directed to individuals/families who have incomes at or below 30% of the area medium income (AMI). In \_\_\_\_\_ County that income level is \$\_\_\_\_\_/month or \$\_\_\_\_\_/year. The requirements

further allow for priorities to be given to those with disabilities or other local “unmet needs” as identified by this locally directed planning process. The regulations further define that individuals with disabilities are those whose applications “cannot be denied”.

The \_\_\_\_\_ CBDD fully recognizes the problems created by the economic conditions over the past 5-7 years which have created an unusual demand on these scarce resources, with more citizens seeking financial assistance. Many individuals and area families are paying well in excess of 30% of their income to meet minimal housing needs. However, we would be remiss in not identifying the unique and perilous needs of those we support who, for the most part, are the “poorest of the poor” of our citizens.

The following points regarding those we serve, need to be addressed in this planning process:

The \_\_\_\_\_ CBDD currently serves \_\_\_\_\_ people annually

Of those we serve \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ % are considered adults, over the age of 18 years of age

Of those adults, \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ % are income eligible to receive a HUD Section 8 Vouchers

95% of those supported by the \_\_\_\_\_ CBDD, rely on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) of \$674/month, which places them at or below 15-18% of the AMI level for \_\_\_\_\_ County!

100% of those individuals also receive federal Medicaid as their only source of medical insurance to meet their medical and support needs (waivered support services) in our community

Of those \_\_\_\_\_ eligible to receive HUD Section 8 Vouchers, only \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ % are recognized on the PHA “waiting list”

If the citizens supported by the \_\_\_\_\_ CBDD are not on the waiting list for the HUD Section 8 Voucher program, they are not included or recognized by HUD as being “in need”

On behalf of the \_\_\_\_\_ CBDD, we need to have those responsible for the preparation of the “Housing Advisory Committee” report to HUD and/or the area’s “Consolidated Planning” process reports, include those citizen within our area who are income eligible and identified as to have a substantial disability included in the waiting list’s highest priorities of “unmet needs” in \_\_\_\_\_ County.

Subsequently, on behalf of the \_\_\_\_\_ County Board of DD, I want this testimony entered into the public record.

Thank you for allowing me to bring this matter to your attention.

Sincerely;

\_\_\_\_\_, Superintendent

\_\_\_\_\_ County Board of DD

\_\_\_\_\_, OH 01234



# Questions & Comments