



Continuum of Care Basic Information

In General

The Continuum of Care is an approach that helps communities plan for and provide a full range of emergency, transitional, and permanent housing and supportive service resources to address the various needs of homeless persons. Homeless people have varying needs, and the Continuum of Care program provides a continuum of services that allows individuals to move from emergency shelter to transitional housing and then to permanent housing. Each year through the Continuum of Care process, eligible organizations have the opportunity to receive funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to supplement and enhance housing and homeless programs in their area. HUD distributes these Congressionally-appropriated funds to help provide services to homeless individuals and families in high-need areas around the country.

Website: <http://hudhre.info/>

There are currently three Continua of Care in the state of Utah:

Name	Geographic area	Contact
Salt Lake	Salt Lake County	Eileen Dwyer
Mountainland	Utah, Wasatch, and Summit Counties	Myla Dutton or Chelsea Ruiz
Balance of State	Rest of the state	Eileen Dwyer

Mountainland Continuum of Care

The Mountainland Continuum of Care is responsible for recommending organizations and projects to receive these funds and any additional funds available under the HUD Continuum of Care Program. HUD requires that Continuum of Care projects be selected and prioritized by the Continuum of Care. United Way of Utah County provides the staff support to the Mountainland Continuum of Care. The Continuum determines which projects submitted by local service organizations will be presented to HUD for funding consideration. Funding for Continuum of Care approaches is provided through three competitive programs: the Supportive Housing Program (SHP), Moderate Rehabilitation Single Room Occupancy (SRO) Program, and Shelter Plus Care (S+C). Each provides specific types of housing services to homeless people, and each program has eligibility standards set by HUD.

Website: <http://mountainlandcoc.org/>

Common Acronyms

HUD- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

COC- Continuum of Care

ARRA- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (legislation that gives government money to communities to help mitigate the effects of the economic downturn)

March 26, 2010- Chelsea Ruiz

HPRP- Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (part of ARRA that gave additional monies to certain communities to help mitigate the effects of the economic downturn)

CDBG- Community Development Block Grant (government funding source)

HEARTH Act- Legislation with upcoming changes that will make CoC funding more flexible and responsive to community needs

TANF- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (government funding source- formerly called Welfare)

SS/SSI- Social Security (government funding source)

DV- Domestic Violence

ES- Emergency Shelter

TH- Transitional Housing

PSH- Permanent Supportive Housing

SHP- Supportive Housing Program

S+C- Shelter Plus Care

HHN- Hold Harmless Need

PPRN- Preliminary Pro-Rata Need

Other Information

Difference between “shelter” and “housing”:

“Shelter” refers to temporary shelter such as a bed in a homeless shelter, domestic violence shelter, or motel voucher (used in areas where shelter space is not available.)

“Housing” refers to permanent and semi-permanent housing such as an apartment rented to a client in a Transitional or Permanent Supportive Housing Program. Transitional and Permanent Supportive Housing can refer to units that are grouped together (facility-based housing) or individual units scattered throughout the community (scattered-site.)

HUD’s definition of “homeless”:

1. an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and
2. an individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is —
 - A. a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations (including welfare hotels, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for the mentally ill);
 - B. an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or
 - C. a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.