

# Housing Deposits Quick Reference Guide

L.A. Care Health Plan launched Community Supports (CS) on January 1, 2022. CS are optional, non-traditional services that address social determinants of health. Under this program, L.A. Care launched the Housing Deposits program (HD) on 7/1/22.

Members who are enrolled with a Housing Transition Navigation Provider who offers Housing Deposit Services through Homeless and Housing Supportive Services (HHSS) qualify to apply for the Housing Deposits program. The program provides once in a life time funding to successfully establish a basic household that does not constitute room and board. Services provided will be based on individualized assessment of needs and documented in the individualized housing support plan (care plan).

Prior to submitting a request on behalf of the member, it is the provider's responsibility to discuss the program with the member and obtain consent to participate. ONLY HHSS providers contracted to offer Housing Deposit services can submit a request for Housing Deposits at this time.

Please be aware that a request does not guarantee eligibility. Providers must check eligibility prior to rendering services. Payments will not be made for unauthorized services.

# Who is eligible?

- 1. L.A. Care Medi-Cal or Cal Medi-Connect member; and
- 2. Enrolled in and receiving housing navigation services through Homeless and Housing Support Services (HHSS); and
- 3. Currently in the process of moving into permanent housing<sup>1</sup>; and
- 4. Unable to meet requested housing deposit expenses.

## Who is not eligible?

- 1. Not currently enrolled in HHSS.
- 2. Already living in permanent housing at the point of request, but reasonable accommodation could be considered<sup>2</sup>.
- 3. Not moving into a permanent housing setting.
- 4. Receiving housing deposit resources from a duplicative program.
- 5. Previously received housing deposit services from L.A. Care Health Plan or other Medi-Cal Managed Care plans. Housing Deposits are available once in an individual's lifetime. Housing Deposits can only be approved one additional time with documentation as to what conditions have changed to demonstrate why providing Housing Deposits would be more successful on the second attempt.

Permanent housing (PH) is defined as community-based housing without a designated length of stay in which formerly homeless individuals and families live as independently as possible. Under PH, a [member] must be the tenant on a lease (or sublease) for an initial term of at least one year that is renewable and is terminable only for cause. Further, leases (or subleases) must be renewable for a minimum term of one month. https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/coc-program-eligibility-requirements/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Reasonable accommodations may be considered for a member who has been living in permanent housing for less than five years and only when the member is re-locating due to a recent change in their physical ability that impacts their access to current housing unit. This must be documented in the member's housing support plan.

### What does Housing Deposits cover?

Please see below the different items Housing Deposits can cover. If the member qualifies for the program, they cannot exceed the maximum lifetime allowance of \$6,000.

Eligible Items		
Rental Payments		
Security Deposit	First Month's Rent	🗆 Last Month's Rent
Utilities		
Utility Deposit	Electricity	Heating
🗆 Gas	🗆 Water	
Cleaning Services		
Fumigation	Cleaning Services	
Medically-Necessary Adaptive Aids		
🗆 Hoyer Lift	Hospital Bed	Shower Chair
Bedside Commode		
Approved Goods		
Kitchen		
Pots and Pans	🗆 Bowls	Cups
Plates	🗆 Kitchen Utensils	Dining Table and 2 Chairs
□ Microwave	Refrigerator	□ Stove
🗆 Can opener	Glasses	Cutting boards
□ Dish towels	Dish drying rack	Cutlery
Bedroom		
Bedding	Clothes Hanger	Nightstand
□ Nightstand	Bedframe	Mattress
Heater	□ Air Conditioner	Infant Furniture
Complete bedding set (includes Bed Bug Mattress Cover)		
Bathroom		
Trash can	🗆 Soap Dish	Toothbrush
Toothbrush Holder	🗆 Tumbler	Towels
Bathmat	□ Shower Curtain	Toiletries (toilet paper, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap)
Living Room		
🗆 End table	Couch	Lamps/Lighting
Cleaning Supplies		

#### How to submit a Request?

Step 1: Visit the L.A. Care Provider Manuals and Forms Page

- Step 2: Scroll and select the Social Services Form option
- Step 3: Select the Housing Deposits Form and complete in its entirety
- Step 4: Submit the completed form with required attachments via fax 213.536.0630 or via SyntraNet

#### What Happens After Submission?

L.A. Care will notify the member and the HHSS provider within 5 business days via fax or mail regarding the outcome.

## If you have questions, please contact us at HHSS-Referrals@lacare.org