Antioch Safe Haven

Safe Havens are a form of supportive housing that serves hard-to-reach homeless people who are mentally ill, those who are on the street and have been unwilling or unable to participate in services. These programs offer 24-hour residences, for an unlimited duration, to a maximum of 25 residents. Safe Havens generally offer private or semi-private rooms with shared kitchen facilities, dining rooms, and bathrooms. Most importantly, Safe Havens offer a “low-demand” atmosphere within which residents are encouraged, but not required, to take advantage of the services offered. In addition to lodging, Safe Havens may include basic services such as meals, laundry, clothing, and transportation as well as mental health assessment and treatment, crisis intervention, medical treatment, and case management. Safe Havens help close the gap in housing and services available to homeless individuals who, perhaps because of their illness, have refused help or have been excluded from other homeless assistance programs. The key goal of Safe Havens is to develop relationships with residents so they will become more willing to participate in services. [From the “A Safe Place, Creating Safe Havens, A Trainer’s Guide”]

The Bridging the Gaps Committee of the Decatur Illinois Homeless Council Continuum of Care began discussing the need for a Safe Haven in 2002. After initial discussions, delegates (Continued on page 5)

Rural “Housing Plus Services”

A new study from the Housing Assistance Council (HAC) identifies three factors that are critical to the success of a “housing plus services” model in rural communities: a supportive state government, use of multiple funding sources, and collaboration with other community organizations.

Formulas for Success: Housing Plus Services in Rural America examines the benefits and challenges associated with implementing and operating affordable housing that incorporates services for special needs populations. Based on case studies of five successful housing plus services projects, the HAC study concludes that combining housing and services has the benefit of reducing duplication of efforts and services, efficiently (Continued on page 7)

Inside Headlines

2 Proving Citizenship Status for Medicaid
3 HUD Peer-to-Peer Homeless Provider Conference
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7 NAEH Federal Policy Guide
8 Headlines Directory

Headlines/Hotline on the Internet: The Illinois Community Action Association publishes both Homeless Headlines and Homeless Hotline on the Publications page of its web site at www.icaanet.org. To receive both by email, send a blank email to: headlines-hotline-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. (Self service only.)
Making the Connection

Proving Citizenship Status for Medicaid

Contributor: DuPage Federation on Human Services Reform

Last month we began a series of columns entitled “Building a Better System”, and promised that this month’s article would be cover Phase 2 of the process, Implementing the Solution. However, due to a major Federal policy shift, we have delayed that article in order to discuss a major change in the verification required to receive Medicaid benefits. This article looks at the impact of this policy, advocacy issues relative to the policy, and what this means to homeless clients today and in the future.

Effective July 1, 2006, federal rules require states handling Medicaid applications to obtain original documents proving the applicant’s U.S. citizenship and identity. The law’s intent is to prevent undocumented immigrants from claiming to be citizens in order to receive medical benefits that are provided only to legal residents. The new requirement was enacted last February as part of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005. Federal rules state that individuals who are receiving Medicare or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) at the time they apply for Medicaid do not need to prove their citizenship and identity. For all others, verification will need to be provided. The type of verification that will be accepted is severely limited by the federal rules. The most universally accepted documents are a U.S. passport (this proves citizenship and identity) or a birth certificate showing the person was born in the U.S. and a driver’s license or state I.D. card. As you know, quite often homeless clients do not have these documents.

Be aware, that the state caseworker or All Kids Application Agent (AKAA) is required to ask for citizenship and identity documents, but currently state staff is not denying or discontinuing benefits for persons who cannot provide these documents. As you know, often individuals who are unable to obtain everything that is requested give up early in the application process and fail to provide any of the requested information, thus resulting in a denial of benefits. Make sure you let your clients know about this policy, encourage them to follow through and provide all other required verification requested. Also, encourage them to ask for help in obtaining the required verification or alternative verifications (state staff is aware of all the types of documents that can be used to verify citizenship and identity), and to tell state caseworkers that more time is needed to obtain the documentation. You also need to stay informed about this policy change since the state policy can be amended at any time (and it is anticipated that it will be) due to updates created by ongoing Federal interpretation of the law.

Further, Illinois is unique in that the new All Kids program provides services for children under age 19 whether they are in this country legally or not. So children who are not citizens do not need these documents. If a family applies for All Kids and fails to submit proof of citizenship and identity for the children, the application will not be denied, nor will benefits be discontinued. However, it means that the benefits these children receive will be paid for entirely from State funds and no Federal match funds will be

(Continued on page 4)
**Homeless Headlines**

**Eighth Annual**

**HUD Peer-to-Peer Homeless Provider Conference**

**September 13-14, 2006**

**Holiday Inn, Collinsville, Illinois**

**Workshop Tracks:**
- Homeless Services (HS)
- Housing Development and Management (HDM)
- Continuum of Care Issues (CoC)

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**Wednesday, September 13**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30am-9:15am</td>
<td>Registration &amp; Continental Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15am-10:15am</td>
<td>Opening Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joe Galvan, HUD Regional Director, Chicago</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ray Willis, Community Planning and Development Director, Chicago</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sharon Hess, S. Illinois Coalition for the Homeless</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rep. Julie Hamos, Evanston (invited)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rep. Sara Feigenholtz, Chicago (invited)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15am-10:30am</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30am-11:30am</td>
<td>Breakout Sessions</td>
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**Thursday, September 14**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30am-8:00am</td>
<td>Continental Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00am-9:00am</td>
<td>General Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>Illinois Rental Housing Support Program Implementation - Illinois Housing Development Authority</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00am-9:15am</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15am-11:30am</td>
<td>Breakout Sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Call for Help Jobe Center &amp; the Family Living Center</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bethany Place &amp; Chestnut Health Systems Fairview Heights HUD III Supervised Living</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Theodoro Place Apartments</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Good Samaritan House &amp; Chestnut Health Systems Mainstay Center</td>
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</table>

**Tour Registration:**

The tours run concurrently. Only sign up for one. Registration limited to the first 30 people to register for each tour.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:15am-10:15am</td>
<td>Breakout Sessions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HS Consumer Panel**

**HDM Universal Design and Persons with Disabilities**

**HS Social Entrepreneurship**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:30am-1:00pm</td>
<td>Lunch on your own</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00pm-2:00pm</td>
<td>Breakout Sessions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HS Consumer Panel**

**HDM Eviction Prevention**

**CoC Prisoner Release into the Shelter System**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:00pm-2:15pm</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15pm-3:45pm</td>
<td>Breakout Sessions</td>
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</table>

**HS Framework for Understanding Poverty**

**HDM Layered Financing**

**CoC HUD Technical Issues**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3:45pm-4:00pm</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00pm-5:00pm</td>
<td>General Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nan Roman, President, National Alliance to End Homelessness, Washington, DC</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30pm-7:00pm</td>
<td>Reception</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30pm</td>
<td>Dinner on your own</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:30pm-2:00pm</td>
<td>Breakout Sessions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HS Making it Work:**

Coordinating Clinical Care and Housing

**HDM Collaborative Supportive Housing**

**CoC Crisis Intervention Teams/Law Enforcement and Continuum of Care: a Great Partnership**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:15pm-2:30pm</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Registration Required**

Registration brochure and form are available at [www.icaanet.org](http://www.icaanet.org)

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**Hotel Information**

**Holiday Inn Collinsville**

1000 Eastport Plaza, Collinsville, IL 62234

618-345-2800 or 800-551-5133

Room Block expires on August 29

Room rates are $69.95/single and $79.95/double + 11% tax, call 618-345-2800 or 800-551-5133 for reservations under the HUD Peer-to-Peer block.

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[The work that provided the basis for this publication was supported by funding under an award with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The substance and findings of the work are dedicated to the public. The author and publisher are solely responsible for the accuracy of the statements and interpretations contained in this publication. Such interpretations, do not necessarily reflect the views of the Government.]
Homeless Headlines

NAEH Family Homelessness Paper

On May 24, 2006, the National Alliance to End Homelessness released “Promising Strategies to End Family Homelessness,” a paper commissioned by Freddie Mac that examines public perception of family homelessness and strategies creating positive outcomes in cities and counties across the country. “For most Americans, homelessness invokes images of men sleeping in parks or panhandling on the street. However, data reveal another side of homelessness—it is the face of families with children,” explained Alliance President Nan Roman. “Despite perceptions, our paper shows that homelessness is different and imminently more solvable than Americans believe.”

Public perceptions of homelessness, measured by a national poll, revealed that most people believe single adult males are more likely to experience homelessness than families and children. According to data, however, 50 percent of those who experience homelessness annually are families. Several cities and counties, including Columbus, Ohio, New York City, and Washington, DC, are taking the needed steps to help these families and have re-tooled their homeless assistance systems. This paper examines promising strategies leading to decreases in family homelessness.

Promising Strategies to End Family Homelessness (PDF) - www.endhomelessness.org/pub/Family_Homelessness_2006.pdf

For further information, contact the National Alliance To End Homelessness at the address in Headlines Directory.

LIHTC and Supportive Housing

In May, Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) and Enterprise released “Using the Housing Credit for Supportive Housing: An Assessment of 2005 State Policies.” The new analysis describes state policies regarding the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) and how those policies treat permanent supportive housing and homelessness. The report was produced by Enterprise and the Corporation for Supportive Housing. It describes states’ Qualified Allocation Plans (QAPs) which determine how states allocate their tax credits. The assessment found that:

- Nine states have specific set-asides for supportive housing;
- Twenty states use scoring incentives for either supportive housing or homelessness;
- Eight states use threshold requirements, meaning that applicants for tax credits must have certain supportive services arrangements to be eligible for a tax credit or for a particular set aside; and
- Nine states award points for providing supportive housing to homeless people.


Nonprofit Sector and the Federal Budget

The Nonprofit Sector and the Federal Budget: Analysis of President Bush’s FY 2007 Budget is a Nonprofit Sector Research Fund Working Paper by the Aspen Institute and Johns Hopkins University. The budget proposals President Bush recently submitted to Congress for FY 2007-2011 would put new demands on the nation’s nonprofits at the same time they reduce federal support to these organizations.

Excluding Medicare and Medicaid, funding for federal programs actually will drop by $79 billion during that time. Federal spending on programs of available.

Remember, this requirement was imposed by Congress, and only Congress has the power to change it. If you have opinions on this issue, or you have citizen clients who are denied Medicaid for lack of documentation, it would be appropriate to communicate with your representatives in the Congress. Further, public interest law projects have undertaken litigation in the hope of getting this provision delayed or overturned.

The DuPage Federation on Human Services Reform, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization focused on advocacy and planning in DuPage County, Illinois and designer and trainer of Making the Connection: A Guide to Accessing Public Benefits.

The DuPage Federation is affiliated with Northern Illinois University, Regional Development Institute. Questions can be directed to knelson@dupagefederation.org or cking@dupagefederation.org.

(Continued from page 3)

Proving Citizenship

(Continued on page 7)
from a number of local agencies went on a fact-finding visit to Chicago. Participants in the trip included:

- Heritage Behavioral Health Center - the local community mental health and substance abuse provider,
- Oasis Day Center - a drop-in day shelter for homeless or very low-income persons,
- Homeward Bound - transitional housing and

notification in December that the request for the Safe Haven project was approved.

Around the same time, the opportunity came about for the City of Decatur to apply for recaptured HOME dollars to develop rental housing for chronically homeless persons. The City decided to partner with one of its' Community Housing Development Organizations, Neighborhood Housing Development Corporation (NHDC), to apply for this funding. Five hundred thousand dollars in HOME money was awarded to the City of Decatur and NHDC in April of 2004.

Subsequently, the Chronic Homeless Committee, and the Permanent Housing Committee of the Homeless Council began a more formal process to determine the best housing options for the chronically homeless population in Decatur. With a grant from the Corporation for Supportive Housing, and the additional money from the City of Decatur Chronic Homeless HOME award, NHDC contracted to develop a 3-5 year supportive housing plan for chronically homeless persons.

Consultants Fred Spannaus, and Linda Greene of Lucas Greene Associates began work immediately on this plan. The final report of this plan, issued in October 2005, called for the development of 95 units over the next five years in three phases with three models of housing: Safe Haven, Single Room Occupancy (SRO), and Supportive Living Apartments (SLA).

During the 2004 HUD SHP grant application process, a large single family home owned by a local church (Antioch Missionary Baptist Church) was identified as an available and appropriate site for a Safe Haven. The building is located directly adjacent to the Oasis Day Center in a non-residential neighborhood and close to amenities, transportation and services in downtown Decatur. The plan was to use the City HOME dollars through a contract with NHDC to develop and rehabilitate the property. Dove, Inc. would contribute operations money from HUD SHP to run the property and lease the building from Antioch. Heritage Behavioral Health Center would request supportive service dollars to provide the 24-hour on-site services from the Illinois Department of Human Services.

On November 7, 2005 the Decatur City Council approved the agreement between NHDC and the City for use of HOME funds for the rehabilitation and development of the Antioch Safe Haven. A ribbon cutting ceremony and dedication was held on May 17, 2006 and the Antioch Safe Haven was certified occupancy ready on July 5, 2006. Three tenants moved in that day with room for at least three more. Funding for the Supportive Services was included in the FY’07 IDHS Budget (through advocacy efforts from the Supportive Housing Providers Association and others).

Tenants of the Antioch Safe Haven are chronically homeless, sign leases for their sleeping rooms and have access to shared spaces (living room, kitchen, dining room and bathroom). There is 24-hour staff on-site to provide whatever forms of support are appropriate and sought out by the tenants. Safe Havens by definition are very low-demand facilities to accommodate the behaviors that often exclude the chronic homeless population from other emergency, transitional and permanent housing options.

(Continued on page 7)
State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company Contributions Program
1 State Farm Plz., B-4
Bloomington, IL 61710
Telephone: (309) 766-2161
URL: www.statefarm.com/commun

Contact: Kristy Funk, Mgr., Corp. Comms. and Ext. Rel.

Areas of Interest: Community Development; 9State Farm supports programs designed to provide affordable quality housing; assist first-time homeowners; and promote sustainable communities. Housing/shelter; Human services, financial counseling; Geographic Focus: National; international

Types of Support: Building/renovation; Capital campaigns; Conferences/seminars; Continuing support; Curriculum development; Donated equipment; Emergency funds; Employee volunteer services; Equipment; In-kind gifts; Loaned talent; Program development; Research; Seed money; Sponsorships. Limitations: Giving on a national basis and in Canada in areas of company operations; giving also to national organizations. No support for religious organizations or political organizations. No grants to individuals. Application information: The Corporate Communications and External Relations Department handles giving. The company has a staff that only handles contributions. A contributions committee reviews all requests of over $100,000. Application form not required. Initial approach: Proposal to headquarters Copies of proposal: 1 Board meeting date(s): April and October

The Annie E. Casey Foundation
701 St. Paul St.
Baltimore, MD 21202
Telephone: (410) 547-6600
FAX: (410) 547-6624
E-mail: webmail@aecf.org

Contact: Douglas W. Nelson, Pres. Additional address for Janice Nittoli (Advisory Board):
c/o New York City Administration for Children’s Services, 150 William St., 18th Fl., New York, NY 10038
Telephone: (212) 788-2741
E-mail: jnittoli@aecf.org
URL: www.aecf.org

Areas of Interest: Children/youth, services; Economically disadvantaged; Education; Human services; Public affairs; Urban/community development; Youth development, services. Program Areas Include: Making Connections: The foundation is embarking on a decade-long effort to help challenging neighborhoods become places where children and their families can flourish. The basic premise behind this work is that children do well when their families do well, and families do better when they live in supportive communities. The centerpiece of this plan will be Making Connections, a demonstration project in which the foundation will work neighborhoods in 22 cities to connect families to the opportunities and supports they need to raise happy, healthy, and successful children. At the same time, the foundation will support a wide range of local, state, and national-scale activities that contribute to strong families and neighborhoods. Rebuilding Communities: In 1993 the foundation launched Rebuilding Communities, an initiative designed to demonstrate that troubled, low-income communities can become safe, supportive environments where children and families can thrive. Working in partnership with five well-established community-based organizations in five cities, the foundation seeks to maximize the capacity and impact of neighborhood resources and institutions; to establish effective neighborhood-based service delivery systems for children, youth, and families; to develop capable and effective neighborhood collaboratives to which state and local resources and authority could gradually be devolved; to improve housing and social and physical infrastructure; and to increase public and private investment in the neighborhoods. Types of Support: Conferences/seminars; Consulting services; Fellowships; General/operating support; Grants to individuals; Management development/capacity building; Program development; Program evaluation; Program-related investments/loans; Publication; Research; Technical assistance. Limitations: Giving on a national basis. No support for political committees-529s (PACs). No grants to individuals (except for Casey Children and Family Fellowship Program), or for capital projects or medical research. Application information: Most grantees are by invitation.* Application form not required. Applicants should submit

1) Results expected from proposed grant
2) Population served
3) Brief history of organization and description of its mission
4) Detailed description of project and amount of funding requested

Initial approach: Letter (no more than 3 pages) Board meeting date(s): 5 times annually Deadline(s): None Final notification: Approximately 30 days after receiving letter

NOTE: Although Annie E. Casey Foundation states that most grantees are by invitation, it does not rule out the possibility of submitting an unsolicited application. Also, it may be worth exploring how to get on their invitee list.
**Peter F. Drucker Award**

The Peter F. Drucker Award for Nonprofit Innovation is given to three nonprofit organizations every November in recognition of an innovative, existing program that has made a difference in the lives of the people it serves. The Award, given annually since 1991, requires a “change that creates a new dimension of performance” as a key consideration for recognition. The first place recipient receives a $25,000 prize, while the two runner up receive prizes of $5,000 and $2,500, respectively. The due date for applications for this November’s reward is August 15, 2006.

For more information, go to www.cgu.edu/pages/4126.asp.

**Alliance Releases New Federal Policy Guide**

The National Alliance to End Homelessness has published a policy guide to help policymakers and advocates understand federal programs and policies regarding housing and homelessness. The 80-page guide includes information and recommendations about recent action on appropriations, pending legislation, and the broader context in which existing policies are being debated. It also provides advocates with information about the legislative process and key strategies for influencing the process.


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**From Adequate to Outstanding Performance**

The Forbes Fund has a new report, From Adequate to Outstanding Performance: Some Propositions on Nonprofit Organizational Life Cycles. The report aims to assist nonprofits that are spending much of their energy “surviving” to move to a higher level of performance by proposing six factors often found in nonprofits with outstanding performance.

Read the report at www.forbesfund.org/tropman/documents/PittEssayBOOKmainPDF.pdf.

**Nonprofit Sector**

(Continued from page 1)

interest to nonprofits is expected to fall by $45 billion below FY 2006 levels after adjusting for inflation. Private giving is unlikely to make up for all those federal budget cuts.


Read the working paper at www.nonprofitresearch.org/usr_doc/BushBudget.pdf.

**Safe Haven**

(Continued from page 5)

It has been a long road to get from conception to completion of the project. Now that the Antioch Safe Haven is open we hope that persons’ lives will be changed for the better. Call us in a year and we will let you know how it is going!

For further information, contact Lore Baker of Homeward Bound at 217-362-7700, or lbaker@doveinc.org.

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**Rural Housing**

(Continued from page 3)

using limited resources, and increasing housing stability for special needs populations. The study also identifies the common challenges, including limitations of organizational capacity and difficulty maintaining long-term funding.

The case studies profile organizations working in rural communities in Vermont, California, Georgia, Tennessee, and Texas. The five examples provide a diverse sample in terms of geography, demographics, population served, and housing type. The projects also represent each of the five housing plus services categories and associated goals defined by NLIHC’s Housing Plus Services Committee: supportive housing; special needs housing; housing for older adults; service-enriched affordable housing; and public housing. The HAC study also uses NLIHC’s definition for “housing plus services” as “permanent affordable housing that incorporates various levels of services provided by trained professionals for whom service delivery, not property management, is the primary responsibility.”

In addition to benefits and challenges, the case studies provide details about funding sources, the community planning process, structure of service delivery, and additional project-specific lessons learned that will be useful to organizations interested in combining services with affordable housing. The report also includes a resource guide with a list of federal sources of financing, technical assistance providers, as well as additional published resources.


For further information, contact the Housing Assistance Council at the address in Headlines Directory.