



# BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION – HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING COORDINATOR – CATHY TRUJILLO & JANICE SHIJE

SEPTEMBER 2024

# MISSION

*We ensure New Mexicans attain their highest level of health by providing whole-person, cost-effective, accessible, and high-quality health care and safety-net services.*



HEALTH CARE  
AUTHORITY

# VISION

*Every New Mexican has access to affordable health care coverage through a coordinated and seamless health care system.*

# GOALS



**LEVERAGE** purchasing power and partnerships to create innovative policies and models of comprehensive health care coverage that improve the health and well-being of New Mexicans and the workforce.



**BUILD** the best team in state government by supporting employees' continuous growth and wellness.



**ACHIEVE** health equity by addressing poverty, discrimination, and lack of resources, building a New Mexico where everyone thrives.



**IMPLEMENT** innovative technology and data-driven decision-making to provide unparalleled, convenient access to services and information.

# United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) – Facts

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*People without a home typically die about 30 years earlier; higher rates of acute and chronic conditions*

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*50% of people are 1 paycheck away from homelessness, 1 crisis away – medical emergency or automobile accident*

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*40-60% of people experiencing homelessness have a job*

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*People with minimum wage jobs must work 86 hours a week to afford a 1-bedroom unit*

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*Only 37 affordable homes are available for every 100 extremely low-income renters (NM 32-40k shortage, per MFA strategic plan in 2021)*

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*70% of the lowest wage households spend half their income on rent*

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*Every \$100 increase in median rent is associated with a 9% rise in homelessness*

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# Housing Programming Overall

- ▶ Housing resources can be a very complex field to navigate. NM has various stakeholders and various programs.
- ▶ The fund source dictates the definition of homelessness, program eligibility criteria and processes for these programs.
- ▶ NM Mortgage Finance Authority, state housing authority and quasi-governmental agency, receives *Emergency Solution Grant (ESG)* funding from US Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD). MFA's ESG funding - *Emergency Housing Assistance Program (EHAP)* supports for homeless shelters.
  - ▶ <https://housingnm.org/>, MFA website – *Rapid Rehousing, HOME, NM Housing Trust Fund, Recovery Housing Program, Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LITHC), HOPWA,, Linkages PSH*
- ▶ The NM Coalition to End Homelessness (NMCEH), non-profit agency, receives *Continuum of Care/Balance of State* funding from HUD for permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, and rental assistance. NMCEH has an application process for providers.
- ▶ NM State Departments utilize funding (SGF or federal grants) for programming
  - ▶ PED utilizes *McKinney Vento* funding and support homeless liaisons in schools
  - ▶ CYFD funds *Transitions* supportive housing programming and vouchers.
  - ▶ HCA (Formerly HSD)
  - ▶ DWS – Office of Housing & Production
- ▶ Municipalities/Localities – City or County



# Behavioral Health Services Division – Health Care Authority

- ▶ BHSD oversees several supportive housing and housing assistance programs.
- ▶ Significant and fast growth to funding and programs in most recent years.
  - ▶ Budget has increased dramatically since FY19 - \$3.4M, FY24 & FY25 \$12M, FY26 over \$16M.
- ▶ Programs are funded and supported with State General Funds and federal grants (2), PATH and Opening Doors.
- ▶ In SFY2025, the supportive housing budget was over \$12.2M with over \$11M SGF.
- ▶ FY23 - 54 contracts with 28 providers; 13 programs areas
- ▶ FY24 & FY25- 65 contracts, 35+ providers and new programming.
- ▶ FY26 – 69 contracts, 35+ providers, 15 program areas



# Range/Types of Programming

Training

Outreach

SSI/SSDI Outreach  
Access to Recovery  
(SOAR)

Shelters

Housing Assistance

MIAEP, OUD/MIAEP,  
Fresh Start Rental  
Assistance

Transitional Housing

*Crisis Housing*

Recovery Housing

*(Oxford House)*

Permanent Supportive  
Housing

*(Linkages, Set Aside  
Housing Program/Local  
Lead Agencies)*

# Programs supported by State General Funds (SGF)

- ▶ Almost Home Case Management
- ▶ Crisis Housing
- ▶ Oxford House
- ▶ Shelters
- ▶ SSI/SSDI Outreach Access to Recovery (SOAR)
- ▶ Youth Homeless Demonstration Project (match funding)
- ▶ Move In Assistance/Eviction Prevention (MIAEP)
- ▶ OUD/MIAEP
- ▶ RAP
- ▶ Training
- ▶ Fresh Start Rental Assistance
- ▶ Local Lead Agencies\*
- ▶ Linkages\*

\*PSH



# Programs Supported Federal Funds

PATH – SAMHSA formula grant that focuses on outreach and connection to services. Homeless individuals with SMI/co-occurring are screened and enrolled.

NM PATH – Life Link in Santa Fe and HopeWorks in Alb

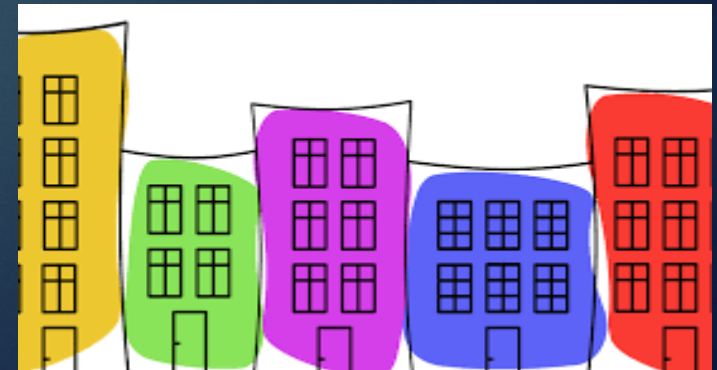
# What is Supportive Housing?

- **Subsidized rental housing** affordable to the lowest levels of income (at or below 30% Area Median Income)
- Linked with flexible **supportive services** to support tenancy and address other needs
- A SAMHSA **evidence-based practice** for recovery and resiliency
  - (Tenant must be the lease holder)

# Permanent Supportive Housing(\*) Programs - PSH

- ▶ Linkages Supportive Housing Program
- ▶ Special Needs or Set Aside Housing Program

(\*) Housing + Support services



# Linkages Permanent Supportive Housing Program

- Program created in 2007 with an initial State General Fund Legislative Allocation of \$300,000
- Began in Three Sites/65 Vouchers
  - Santa Fe
  - Albuquerque
  - Silver City/Deming
- Joint Venture:
  - Health Care Authority/Behavioral Health Services Division manages the Support Service Agency (SSA) providers.
  - Mortgage Finance Authority manages the Housing Administrators (HAs) responsible for vouchers.
    - BHSD contracts with MFA who subcontracts with housing administrators.

**Services  
Agencies**

**Human  
Services  
Dept.**

**NM  
Mortgage  
Finance  
Authority**

**Housing  
Administrator**

# Linkages Supportive Housing Program

State General Funds continue to support the Linkages Program, and funding has since 2007 increased from \$300k to over \$5.3 million in SFY2024, \$6.2M in SFY2025 and over \$10M in SFY2026

Funding increased significantly from \$1.7M to \$3.8M in SFY2021, which allowed for two additional sites and voucher capacity increases for all existing sites. 180 to 318 voucher capacity.

SFY2023 (\$500k) & SFY2024 (\$1M) also had increased funding. Increases supported higher allowance for rent and hotel/motel vouchers and increase to voucher capacity. 396

FY25 – Linkages funds support furniture stipends.

FY26 – 553 vouchers; 11 sites

# Linkages Program Housing Administrators (HAs) & Support Services Agencies (SSAs)

## Albuquerque:

Barret Foundation (HA)  
Supportive Housing Coalition (HA)  
First Nations Community Healthsource (SSA)  
Albuquerque Health Care for the Homeless (SSA)  
Hopeworks (SSA)

177 vouchers

## Silver City/Deming:

Supporting People In Need (SPIN) (HA)  
Hidalgo Medical Services (SSA)

38 vouchers

## Clovis:

Alianza (HA)  
Mental Health Resources (SSA)

19 vouchers

## Santa Fe:

The Life Link (HA/SSA)

123 vouchers

## Sandoval County:

Barret Foundation (HA)  
Teambuilders (SSA)

15 vouchers

## Las Cruces:

Mesilla Valley Community of Hope (HA)  
La Clinica (SSA)  
Amador Health Center (SSA)

82 vouchers

## Farmington:

San Juan County Partnership (HA)  
Presbyterian Medical Services (SSA)

29 vouchers

## Taos:

Dream Tree (HA)  
Teambuilders (SSA)

26 vouchers

## Gallup:

Supportive Housing Coalition (HA)  
Presbyterian Medical Services (SSA)

29 vouchers

## Roswell:

Alianza (HA)  
La Casa (SSA)

15 vouchers

# Linkages Supportive Housing Program

**Eligible individuals receive a rental assistance voucher and support services, monthly house visit.**

## Program Eligibility

- ▶ Diagnosis of Serious Mental Illness; or, Co-occurring (SMI and Substance Use Disorder), which has resulted in a functional impairment, and,
  - ▶ Homelessness or precariously housed, and
  - ▶ Extremely low income, at or below 30% AMI, per HUD guidelines
- 
- ▶ FY24 - 396 Voucher Capacity statewide
  - ▶ FY26 – 553 Voucher Capacity statewide

# Linkages Program Applicant Process & Partners

## SERVICES

### Step 1 ***Services Provider Role***

#### ***Phase A: Eligibility, Referral of Linkages Applicant***

- Client In reach/Outreach to individuals with SMI and experiencing homelessness
- Determines & Certifies consumer eligibility
- Refers /Accompanies consumer to Housing Administrator with documentation

#### ***Phase B: After Linkages Client Voucher Issuance***

- Assist /Accompany consumer with housing search and move in
- Assist consumer with hotel/motel stay during housing search, if necessary.
- Assist consumer with move-in and orient to lease & property rules
- Provides support services and eviction prevention as needed
- Conducts monthly home visits - required
- Liaison with property manager regarding tenant-landlord relations

## HOUSING

### Step 2

#### ***Housing Administrator Role***

Issues housing rental voucher to Linkages consumer and

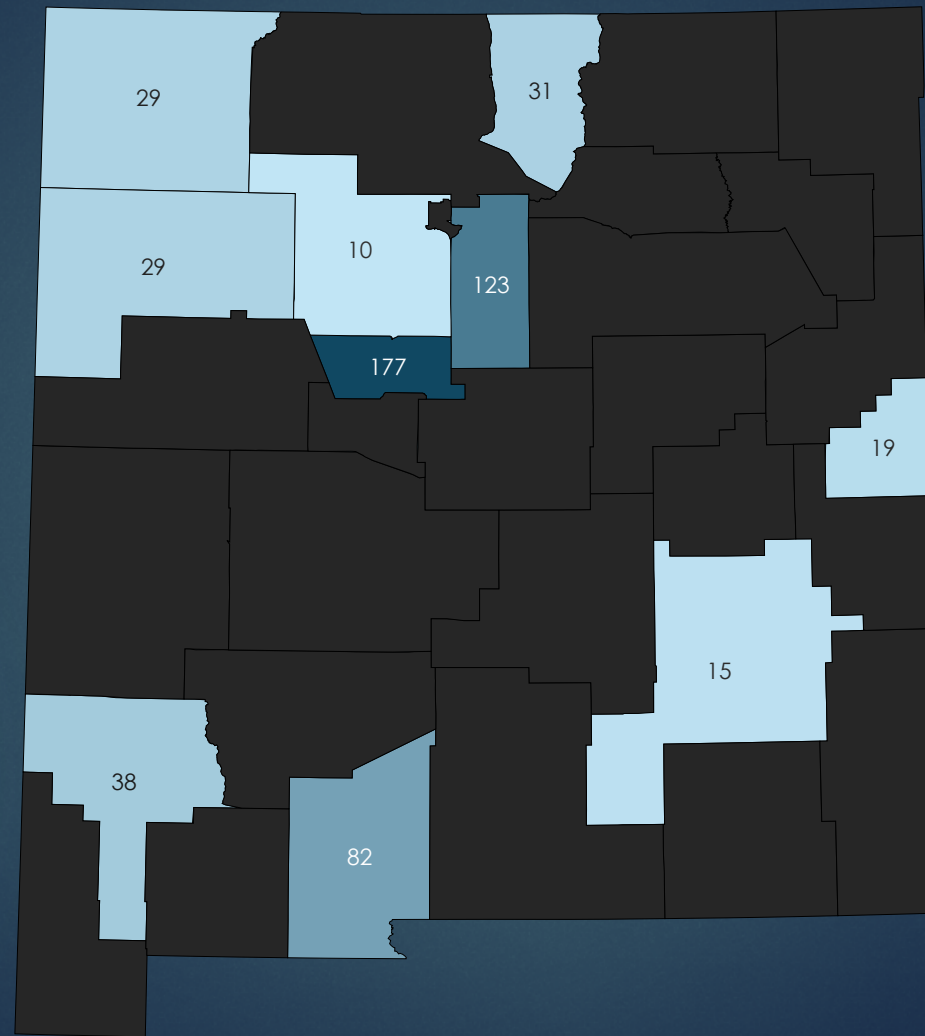
Contracts with Property Manager  
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#### ***Rental Property Manager Role***

*(selected by Linkages consumer)*  
accepts Linkages rental voucher  
executes Lease with Consumer



# FY26 Linkages Voucher Capacity



# H0044 – Pre-Tenancy/Tenancy Supportive Housing Services – Section 1115 Waiver (Medicaid)

| H0044 Pre-Tenancy/Tenancy Supportive Housing Services |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | H0044 Expansion Items                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Provider Type Eligibility                             | Providers who render Linkages Support Services                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Expand to Local Lead Agencies associated with the Set Aside Housing Program      |
| Eligible Provider Role                                | Certified Peer Support Workers (CPSWs) or Licensed BH professionals                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Community Support Workers (CSWs), Case Managers, Supportive Housing Coordinators |
| Member Capacity                                       | 180                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 450 (approved by CMS)                                                            |
| Pre-Tenancy Services<br>(No changes with renewal)     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Screening and identifying preferences and barriers related to successful tenancy;</li> <li>(b) Developing an individual housing support plan and housing crisis plan;</li> <li>(c) Assisting participants with finding and applying for housing;</li> <li>(d) Ensuring that the living environment is safe and ready for move-in;</li> <li>(e) Tenancy orientation and move-in assistance;</li> <li>(f) Assistance in securing necessary household supplies; and</li> <li>(g) Landlord relationship building and communication.</li> </ul>                                             |                                                                                  |
| Tenancy Services<br>(No changes with renewal)         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Early identification of issues undermining housing stability, including member behaviors;</li> <li>(b) Coaching Medicaid member about relationships with neighbors, landlords and tenancy compliance;</li> <li>(c) Education about tenant responsibilities and rights;</li> <li>(d) Supports to assist participants in resolving tenancy issues;</li> <li>(e) Regular review and updates to housing support plan and housing crisis plan; and</li> <li>(f) Assist participants in linking to other community resources that may support individuals in maintaining housing.</li> </ul> |                                                                                  |

# Special Needs or Set Aside Housing Program (SAHP)

- ▶ SAHP is a permanent supportive housing program.
- ▶ What is a Special Needs/Set Aside Housing Unit?  
A housing unit in a designated LIHTC (Low Income Housing Tax Credit) property that has been set aside or prioritized for a qualified special needs consumer
- ▶ There are 372 Special Needs units set aside in forty-five (45) housing projects/properties located in nineteen (19) New Mexico counties and Native American tribal lands.
- ▶ **Local Lead Agencies (LLAs)** screen for eligibility criteria. 12 LLAs Statewide.

# Special Needs/Set Aside Housing Program Eligibility

**Who is Eligible?** Applicant must have household income at or below 60% of area median income for the County:

and

**Household must meet one of these target populations:**

- homeless or precariously housed individual or family
- physical disabilities
- developmental disabilities
- chronic mental illness
- substance use disorder
- sensory or cognitive disability
- disability caused by chronic illness
- age-related disability (i.e., frail elderly, or, young adult with other special needs who have been in the foster care or juvenile justice services system)

and

**Applicant must also have a selected Support Service Provider:**

- Assist with the SN application process
- Commits to provide ongoing services
- Commits to conduct monthly home visits

# Local Lead Agencies

- ▶ Screen for eligibility of SAHP and maintain waiting list.
- ▶ Liaison with support service agencies, property managers, and tenant.

|                                                  |                          |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Choices Center for Independent Living            | Eddy                     |
| Presbyterian Medical Services                    | San Juan                 |
| GCLC Inc Main Office                             | Lea                      |
| CPLC                                             | Bernalillo               |
| La Casa                                          | Chavez                   |
| La Clinica De Familia, Inc.                      | Dona Ana                 |
| Mental Health Resources Clovis                   | Curry                    |
| NM Behavioral Health Institute - Comm Based Svcs | San Miguel               |
| Pueblo of Acoma                                  | Cibola                   |
| The Life Link                                    | Santa Fe                 |
| Teambuilders                                     | Sandoval, Valencia, Taos |
| Zuni Housing Authority                           | McKinley                 |

# **BHSD Housing Assistance Programs**

**Move In Assistance and Eviction Prevention Assistance Program (MIAEP)  
– rent/utility assistance**

**Crisis Housing – Transitional Housing**

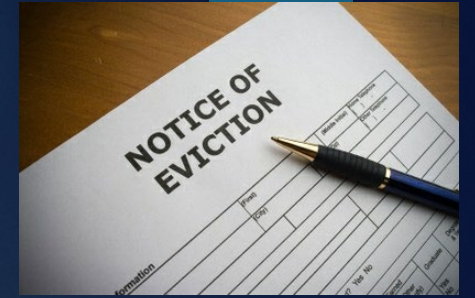
**Oxford House – Recovery Housing**

**Shelters – Homeless shelters**

**SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) – support for disability  
benefits**

**Fresh Start Rental Assistance**

# Move In Assistance & Eviction Prevention Program (MIAEP)



- ▶ For persons (may be adult or other family member) diagnosed with Serious Mental Illness or Severe Emotional Disturbance (minor) who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

\*Eligible individual must be active in service.

- ▶ Provides eligible recipients a \$1,000.00 grant every three (3) years for expenses related to moving into housing or preventing eviction (rent, utilities, deposits, etc.)

## Seven Providers and Counties Served (MIAEP available statewide)

- ▶ First Nations Community Healthsource: Bernalillo
- ▶ Hopeworks: Bernalillo
- ▶ TeamBuilders: Valencia, Torrance, Sandoval, Taos, Colfax and Union
- ▶ Mental Health Resources: Curry, Quay, Harding, De Baca, Roosevelt, Lincoln, Chaves, Lea and Eddy
- ▶ Presbyterian Medical Services (PMS): San Juan, McKinley, Cibola Counties
- ▶ Amador Health Center: Dona Ana, Luna, Grant, Catron, Hidalgo, Otero, Sierra, Socorro
- ▶ The Life Link: Santa Fe, Los Alamos, San Miguel, Guadalupe, Mora, and Rio Arriba

# BHSD Crisis (Respite) Housing Program

Provides **transitional housing** up to 120-days for individuals who meet all three criteria:

- diagnosed with serious mental illness
- being discharged from psychiatric centers, hospitals, jails or other institutional settings , and,
- have no imminent housing available and would otherwise become homeless

Program helps to stabilize the client; assist them to find employment; have income entitlements reinstated; and find permanent housing.

Program Locations:

- ▶ Amador Health Center-- Las Cruces and Dona Ana County

# Oxford House™ New Mexico Program

- ▶ Nationally recognized Recovery housing program for persons with alcohol use or substance use disorders
- ▶ Congregate housing in a structured living environment with peer support to achieve behavior change without relapses
- ▶ Democratically run, self-supporting and drug-free houses for either male or female clients
- ▶ Residents may participate in Medical Assisted Treatment (MAT) programs for addiction
- ▶ Oxford Houses are (19) located in Albuquerque, Las Cruces, and Farmington

# SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR)

- ▶ BHSD began funding SOAR providers in FY21, per legislative process.
- ▶ SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR) is a model developed by SAMHSA to assist SSI/SSDI eligible individuals navigate the difficult process of obtaining an approval for disability income benefits administered by the Social Security Administration.
- ▶ SOAR allows increased access to Social Security disability benefits for eligible individuals who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness, have a serious mental illness, medical impairment, and/or co-occurring substance use disorder.
- ▶ Providers - Albuquerque Health Care for the Homeless; Heading Home; Hidalgo Medical Services (Main); Mesilla Valley Community of Hope; St. Luke's Health Care Clinics, Inc.

# Shelters

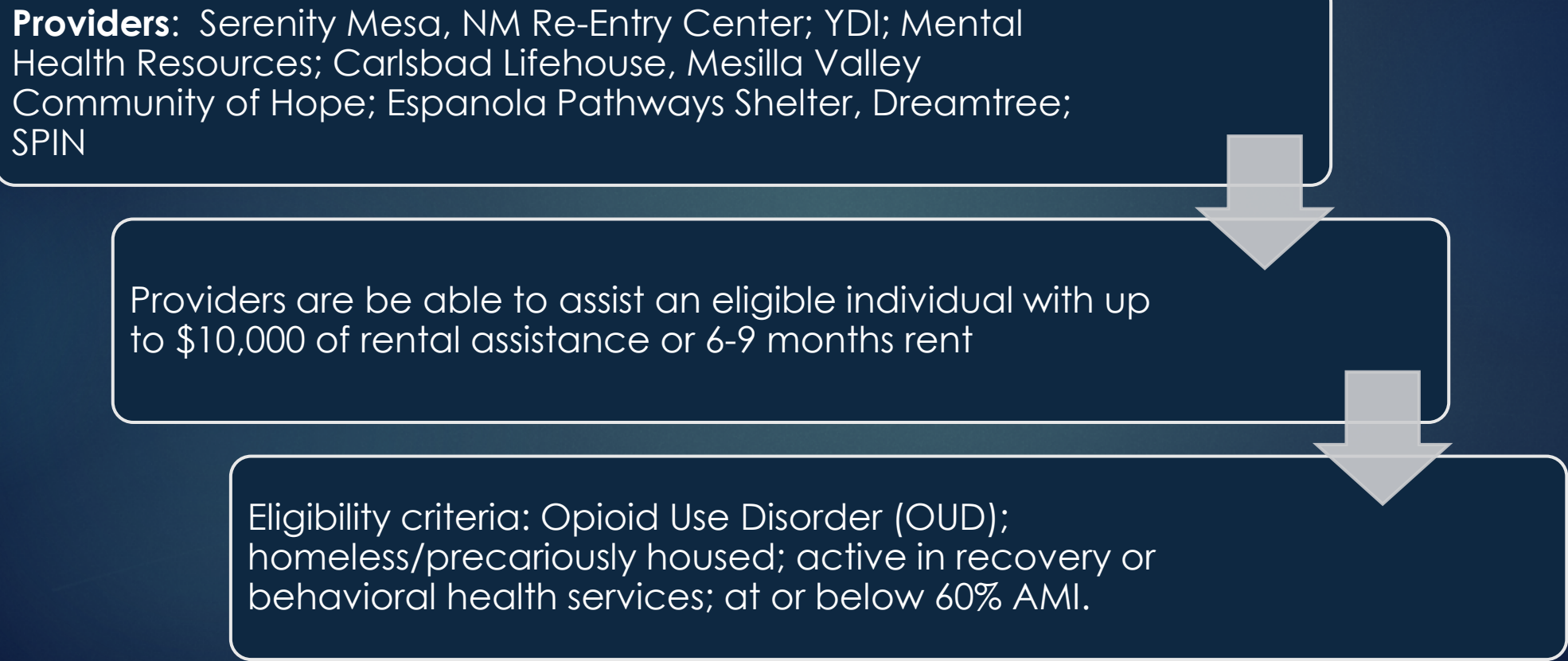
- ▶ BHSD began funding shelter providers in FY21, per legislative process:
  - ▶ Battered Families Services, Inc.
  - ▶ Interfaith Community Shelter Group, Inc.
  - ▶ Saint Elizabeth Shelter Corporation
  - ▶ Valencia Shelter Services
  - ▶ Espanola Pathways Shelter

# **Fresh Start Rental Assistance**

- ▶ NM Attorney General reached a settlement with CVS, Albertsons, and Wal Mart regarding reaping of profits from addictive opioids
- ▶ \$6.5M to BHSD; \$2M to housing
- ▶ Fresh Start Rental Assistance program – new
- ▶ Request for Application process in September 2023
- ▶ Providers selected and contracts signed in November 2023; programming began in December 2023.

# Fresh Start Rental Assistance

**Providers:** Serenity Mesa, NM Re-Entry Center; YDI; Mental Health Resources; Carlsbad Lifehouse, Mesilla Valley Community of Hope; Espanola Pathways Shelter, Dreamtree; SPIN

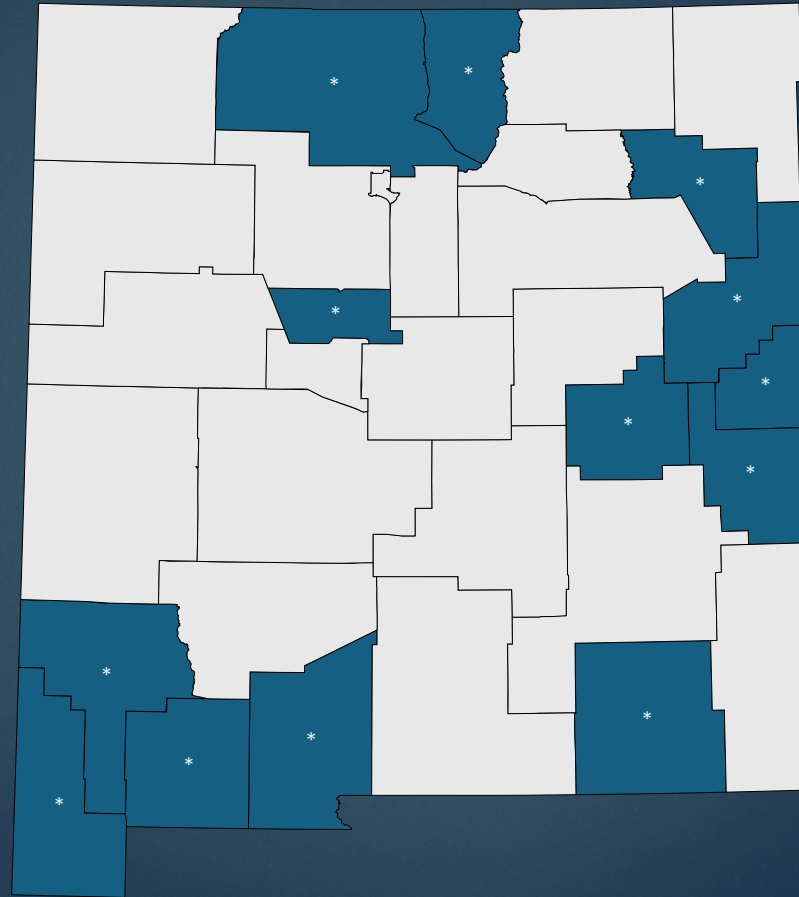


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graph TD; A[Providers: Serenity Mesa, NM Re-Entry Center; YDI; Mental Health Resources; Carlsbad Lifehouse, Mesilla Valley Community of Hope; Espanola Pathways Shelter, Dreamtree; SPIN] --> B[Providers are be able to assist an eligible individual with up to $10,000 of rental assistance or 6-9 months rent]; B --> C[Eligibility criteria: Opioid Use Disorder (OUD); homeless/precariously housed; active in recovery or behavioral health services; at or below 60% AML.];
```

Providers are be able to assist an eligible individual with up to \$10,000 of rental assistance or 6-9 months rent

Eligibility criteria: Opioid Use Disorder (OUD); homeless/precariously housed; active in recovery or behavioral health services; at or below 60% AML.

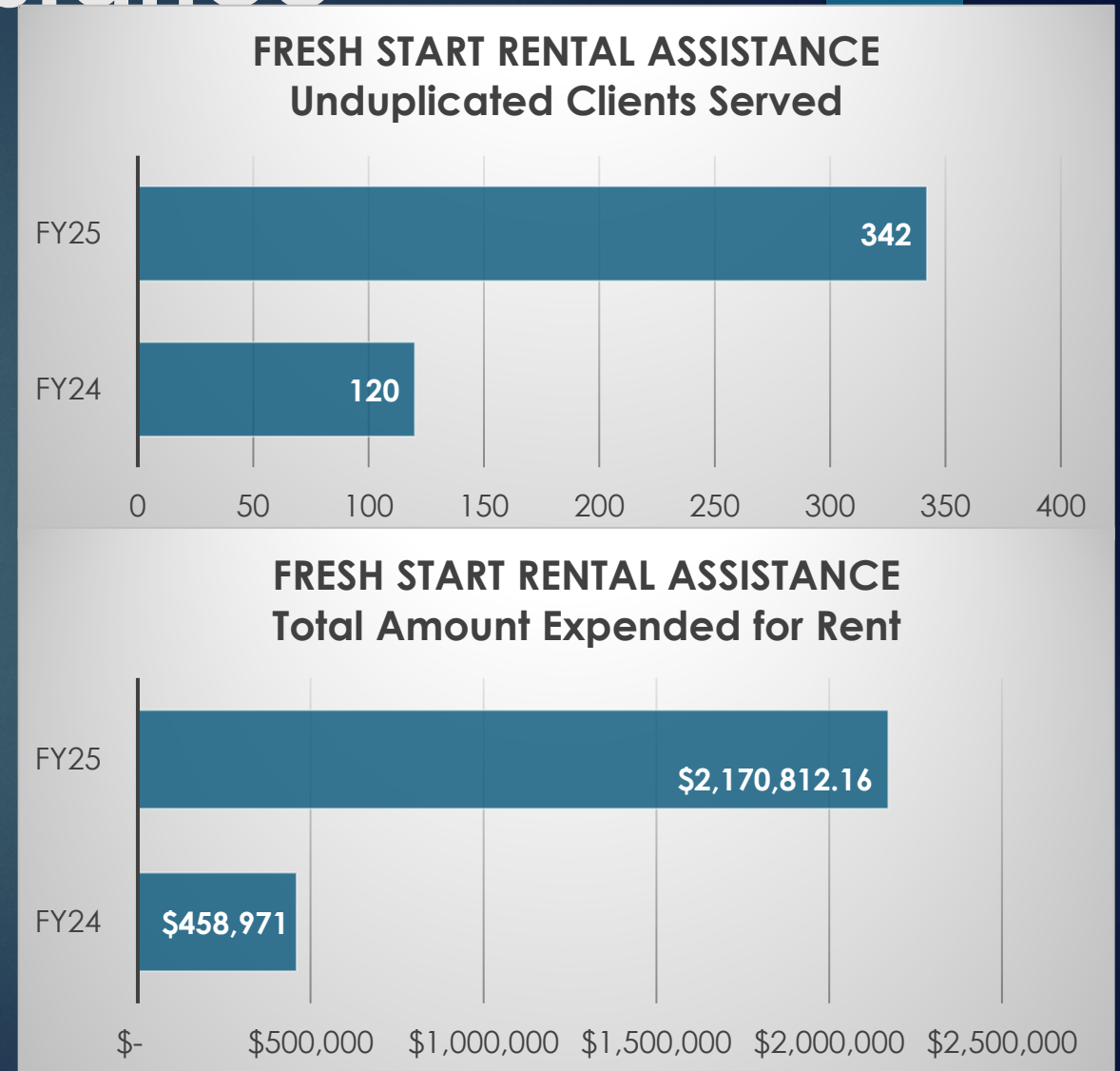
# FRESH START RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



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# Fresh Start Rental Assistance

- ▶ FY25 – Funding was supplemented with additional with \$2.4M expended
- ▶ Since the inception of the program 342 unduplicated clients have been served
- ▶ FY26 - \$2.5M allocated to support the program



# Fresh Start Rental Assistance

- ▶ Each eligible individual has a Housing Stability plan to ensure continued success.
- ▶ Policy updates since FSRA program began:
  - ▶ Furniture Stipends allowed for individuals eligible for rental assistance up to \$1,000, per client.
  - ▶ Support may now extend to 9 months but within the \$10k allowable amount; initially support was 6 months.
  - ▶ Outcomes data will be gathered at 6 months and provide clients with a \$25 stipend.





# Thank you!

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[HTTPS://YES.NM.GOV/NMHR/S/SUPPORTIVE-HOUSING?LANGUAGE=EN\\_US](https://yes.nm.gov/nmhr/s/supportive-housing?language=en_us)