

## SPRINGFIELD-HAMPDEN COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE

### ORDER OF PRIORITY FOR COORDINATED ACCESS TO PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

The CoC is adopting rules consistent with HUD Notice CPD-16-11 (July 25,2016). All CoC-funded units are dedicated or prioritized for chronically homeless, so the order of priority list in 1 below applies, unless there are no persons in this category to refer, in which case, the order of priority list in 2 below applies.

**PRIORITY 1: Chronically homeless persons** with the longest periods of homelessness and highest severity of service needs. Within this priority, the following orders of priority apply:

- a. Persons who have been cumulatively homeless for **more than 2 years (24 months) and have a VI-SPDAT score of 8** or higher. Within this category, prioritization is by highest VI-SPDAT score first.
- b. All others who are chronically homeless, prioritized by highest VI-SPDAT score first.

**PRIORITY 2:** Persons who do not meet the definition of chronically homeless but who are—

- a. **Episodically homeless with a cumulative stay of at least 12 months and has severe service needs** (does not need to verify 4+ occasions of homelessness in 3 years). Must have been homeless at least 12 months in the last 3 years and have a VI-SPDAT score 8 or higher or case conferencing establishes level of service needs that should justify score of 8+.
- b. **Disabled and has severe service needs** Homeless and has a VI-SPDAT score 8 or higher or case conferencing establishes level of service needs that should justify score of 8+.
- c. **Disabled** Homeless and is disabled.
- d. **Persons coming from transitional housing**

When a vacancy occurs, it must be reported in the Online Coordinated Access System (CAS). Providers should enter vacancies as soon as they are aware of them (even if the unit is not yet ready.) The system will search among persons in CAS for the person with the highest priority who meets any additional eligibility rules for the project. (Other eligibility rules are those tied to additional funding sources and may include, for example, DMH-eligible, CSPECH-eligible, HIV+ or meets Housing Authority eligibility requirements.)

The system will notify the housing provider and then all indicated contacts of the match. Once the homeless individual agrees to the match, the Navigator/caseworker accepts the match in the system. The Navigator and housing provider coordinate to assist the person to access the unit.