Special Needs Housing

FUNCTION

The mission of Special Needs Housing (SNH) is to provide oversight and leadership to the County's efforts to develop new and innovative housing models to serve special needs and homeless populations and maintain housing stability for vulnerable households. SNH is responsible for collaboration with and among public and private agencies to develop and implement strategies, to address the County's plan to remedy and prevent homelessness and increase the development of supportive, accessible and affordable housing for special needs populations. Special needs populations include homeless individuals and families, persons with mental health and substance abuse issues, individuals with developmental disabilities, transitioning youth, and seniors with disabilities.

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Nadim Khan of the HHS - Special Needs Housing at 240.777.1179 or Trudy-Ann Hunter of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.777.2778 for more information regarding this service area's operating budget.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Rental & Energy Assistance Program

The Maryland Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) and Electric Universal Services Program (EUSP) provide financial assistance for eligible low-income households to pay home heating and energy costs.

The Rental Assistance and Handicapped Rental Assistance Programs provide subsidies to low-income renters, handicapped persons, and families with dependent children.

The Supportive Housing Rental Assistance Program (SHRAP) provides housing and service coordination to special need families/individuals and also provides funding for the Partnership for Permanent Housing (PPH) program.

The Rental and Energy Assistance Program was formerly in Behavioral Health and Crisis Services. SHRAP and PPH were formerly in the Office of the Director (Administration and Support).

FY09 Recommended Changes

	Expenditures	WYs
FY08 Approved	**5,760,480**	**9.3**
Increase Cost: Rental & Energy Assistance - Increase Office Service Coordinator from Part Time to Full Time	22,570	0.5
Increase Cost: SuperNofa-Cash Match for McKinney XII (Supportive Housing Project)	12,600	0.0
Decrease Cost: Rental & Energy Assistance - Redirection of Operating Expenses to Personnel Cost	-22,570	0.0
Decrease Cost: Partnership For Permanent Housing	-50,000	0.0
Eliminate: Energy Tax Rebate	-180,000	0.0
Miscellaneous adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	2,789,860	3.0
FY09 CE Recommended	**8,332,940**	**12.8**

Notes: Miscellaneous adjustments include position shifts as a result of a reorganization.

Shelter Services

This program coordinates and provides shelter services to both families with children and single adults on a seasonal and emergency basis. Support services, including case management and outreach, are provided to persons transitioning to more permanent housing. Front-end assessments are provided to identify persons who may have a mental illness, substance abuse concerns, or other issues that contribute to their homelessness. Shelter Services was formerly in Behavioral Health and Crisis Services.

FY09 Recommended Changes

	Expenditures	WYs
FY08 Approved	**5,568,780**	**2.8**
Increase Cost: Housing for Mentally Ill Women at Welcome Homes - to maintain eight housing slots	164,840	0.0
Increase Cost: Family Shelter Services	144,830	0.0
Increase Cost: Adult Shelter Services	91,540	0.0
Increase Cost: SuperNofa-Home First II Match	17,120	0.0
Decrease Cost: Motels	-350,000	0.0
Miscellaneous adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	95,510	0.0
FY09 CE Recommended	**5,732,620**	**2.8**

Supportive Housing Services

This program provides transitional housing for families with children and persons with mental disabilities. On-site case management is provided to assist persons receiving services to become self-sufficient. Supportive Housing Services was formerly in Behavioral Health and Crisis Services.

FY09 Recommended Changes

	Expenditures	WYs
FY08 Approved	**1,712,720**	**10.4**
Miscellaneous adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	101,550	0.0
FY09 CE Recommended	**1,814,270**	**10.4**

Housing Stabilization Services

This program provides intake and assessment for county households who are experiencing a housing-related emergency. State and County grants are provided, as well as referrals for Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA), in order to prevent homelessness, assist with utility arrearage, and avoid welfare dependence. This program also offers mediation services to prevent homelessness by reconciling young adults and their children with the family of origin. Housing Stabilization Services was formerly in Behavioral Health and Crisis Services.

FY09 Recommended Changes

	Expenditures	WYs
FY08 Approved	**4,842,930**	**32.2**
Decrease Cost: Abolish Principal Administrative Aide position	-68,090	-1.0
Miscellaneous adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	114,950	-1.0
FY09 CE Recommended	**4,889,790**	**30.2**

Notes: Miscellaneous adjustments include position shifts as a result of a reorganization.

Service Area Administration

This program provides leadership and direction for the administration of Special Needs Housing.

FY09 Recommended Changes

	Expenditures	WYs
FY08 Approved	**0**	**0.0**
Miscellaneous adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting more than one program	309,510	2.0
FY09 CE Recommended	**309,510**	**2.0**

Notes: The two workyears shown in this program represent shifts from other programs within the department