



# Moving On Policy

*Updated November 2022*

# Northern Nevada Continuum of Care - Moving On Policy

**Purpose:** To coordinate efforts in Washoe County area to support the long-term growth, recovery, and independence of Permanent Supportive Housing program participants who are able and want to move on from PSH by providing them with a sustainable, affordable housing option and the services and resources they need to maintain continued housing success.

## Objectives

- Build a CoC culture supportive of Moving On
- Assist PSH providers to gain a better understanding of how to:
  - Support growth, independence, and choice for program participants by setting them up for long-term stability and success.
  - Engage and assess program participants for interest and readiness to move on.
  - Provide services to program participants who are willing and able to move on through the preparation, transition, and aftercare phases of the process.
- Assist community stakeholders interested in helping to support Moving On initiatives to gain an understanding of the services and resources necessary to help prepare program participants to move and support them in making the transition out of supportive housing when they want to and are able to leave.

## 1. Moving On Culture

A culture of Moving On is one that recognizes that:

- All program participants have strengths and the capacity for growth.
- People can recover from mental health issues, homelessness, addiction, trauma, and other challenges.
- Supportive housing program participants deserve the right to self-determination and choice, which may include the goal of moving on from supportive housing.
- It is a given that not all program participants will be interested in or capable of moving on.

## 2. Engagement and Assessment

To help identify program participants that are interested in and ready to move on, CoC Members should take a multi-step approach, including the following:

- i. Engaging program participants around Moving On, ideally throughout their time in PSH.
- ii. Assessing program participant readiness for Moving On For more information on engagement and assessment,

- iii. Screening for resource eligibility, to help determine what local affordable housing and other resources program participants can apply for to support their transition.

### 3. Long-Term Preparation

To assist PSH participants ready to move on, CoC members should support program participants to address housing barriers, identify and secure housing options, and connect with community-based resources.

- Engage program participants around additional areas that could impact their ability to move on, including:
  - i. Financial health and wellness, including credit and debt
  - ii. Legal issues
  - iii. Community connections
- Engage program participants in identifying and securing housing.
  - i. Help program participants create a housing plan (where they want to move, what resources they need, etc.); and provide support to implement this plan
    1. Obtaining private-market housing with a tenant-based rental subsidy, such as a HUD Housing Choice Voucher (HCV).
      - a. CoC members are strongly encouraged to assist program participants to get on the Reno Housing Authority's Voucher waiting list as early as possible once a participant enters into a PSH program
    2. Moving into site-based affordable housing (e.g., Public housing, Low Income Housing Tax Credit buildings, or HUD Multifamily housing).
      - a. CoC members are strongly encouraged to assist program participants to get on waiting lists for income-limited affordable housing properties in the community as early as possible once a participant enters into a PSH program
    3. Other options (e.g., market-rate housing, family reunification, or housing with roommates).
- Engage program participants to identify opportunities to increase income.
  - i. Supplemental Security Income (SSI) & Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
    1. CoC members are strongly encouraged to have case managers and other relevant staff complete training in the SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) model
  - ii. Employment opportunities
- Connect program participants with other services and supports needed to sustain housing once they have moved on from PSH programs:
  - i. Mental and Physical Health Services
  - ii. Peer Support
  - iii. Connection to community-based resources (health and mental health, education, child care, nutrition, utility assistance, transportation, etc.)
  - iv. Tenancy Education
  - v. Financial Education