

TRANSITIONAL RENT THE 15TH COMMUNITY SUPPORT

DHCS Transitional Rent Policy



Overview

As part of the BHConnect program, DHCS is launching Transitional Rent, the “15th Community Support.” Transitional Rent covers rent/temporary housing for up to 6 months for transitioning populations who meet certain clinical criteria and who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness, reducing their risk of returning to institutional care or experiencing homelessness. All Managed Care Plans must offer this service, with a go-live date of January 1, 2026.

COMMUNITY SUPPORTS HOUSING TRIO +1



Housing Transition & Navigation Services

Help FINDING housing



Housing Deposits

*Help BEYOND rent
(not room & board)*



Housing Tenancy & Sustaining Services

Help MAINTAINING tenancy



Transitional Rent

Help PAYING RENT

POPULATIONS OF FOCUS (PoF)

PoF 1: Behavioral health qualification

PoF 2: Transitioning out of an institutional or congregate residential setting

PoF 3: Transitioning out of carceral setting

PoF 4: Transitioning out of interim setting

PoF 5: Transitioning out of recuperative care or short-term post-hospitalization housing

PoF 6: Transitioning out of foster care

PoF 7: Experiencing unsheltered homelessness

PoF 8: Eligible for Full Service Partnership (FSP)

*Mandatory launch of Transitional Rent for PoF1 by
January 1, 2026*

COVERED SERVICES

Allowable Living Settings

- Single-family & multi-family homes, apartments
- Housing in mobile home communities
- Accessory dwelling units (ADUs)
- Shared housing
- Project based or scattered site permanent supportive housing
- Single room occupancy (SROs), tiny homes, recovery housing, license-exempt room & board, hotels/motels, interim settings, transitional & recovery housing with no lease agreement

Duration of Service

- Maximum of 6 months of rent
- Authorization must occur within 6 months of qualifying event & the service must be used within 12 months of the authorization

Service Payment Terms

- Reimbursable ceilings are tied to a percentage of the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Small Area Fair Market Rents (SAFMR).
- Includes an administrative fee (amount is at the discretion of the MCP)

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KEY STAKEHOLDERS ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Managed Care Plans (MCPs)

- Develop **policies & procedures**
- Coordinate with ECM, Community Supports, & CHW providers to **facilitate outreach**
- Establish **referral pathways** from county BH delivery systems

County Behavioral Health Delivery Systems

- Conduct **outreach**
- **Connect members** to Transitional Rent providers
- **Support members** transitioning from Transitional Rent to Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) housing

Transitional Rent Providers

- **Pay** landlords / housing providers for housing
- Help members **access** other CalAIM services

ECM & Housing Trio Providers

- **Refer** members to Transitional Rent
- **Receive referrals** of members receiving Transitional Rent
- Be **uniquely involved** in care coordination



Other Parties Involved

Landlords & housing providers, Continuums of Care (CoCs), Public Housing Agencies (PHAs), & BHSA housing intervention programs

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

MEET CLINICAL RISK FACTORS

- Meet the access criteria for Medi-Cal Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS), or
- Meet the access criteria for Drug Medi-Cal (DMC), or
- Meet the access criteria for Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery Systems (DMC-ODS) services, or
- Have one or more serious chronic physical health conditions, or
- Pregnant to 12-months postpartum, or
- Have physical, intellectual, or developmental disabilities

EXPERIENCING OR AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS

As defined by US Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) current definition as codified at 24 CFR part 91.5, with certain modifications

SPECIFIED TRANSITIONING POPULATIONS

- Transitioning out of an institutional or congregate residential setting, or
- Transitioning out of a carceral setting, or
- Transitioning out of interim setting, or
- Transitioning out of recuperative care or short-term post-hospitalization housing, or
- Transitioning out of foster care, or
- Unsheltered homeless, or
- Eligible for Full Service Partnership (FSP)