

Breaking the cycle of Homelessness

The TANF Program

Our TANF Housing program represents IHS' growing efforts to ensure that eligible homeless families who also have the desire are being transitioned from homelessness to permanent housing. As I.H.S.' mission directs us to help people out of homelessness, our first priority is to house TANF eligible families. Our agency will strive to find and retain suitable permanent housing for the homeless families of Oahu while provide case management services to improve their quality of life. The rapid placement opportunity provided by I.H.S.' TANF housing program will help to solve rather than manage homelessness.



NEED INFORMATION?

*Who do I contact to find out more information
about IHS' Shelter Plus Care program?*

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*Temporary
Assistance
for
Needy
Families*

Answers to commonly asked
questions about I.H.S.' rental
assistance program.



What is TANF?

TANF is an “income support” program that is administered by the state under federal supervision and regulation since first created by the Social Security Act of 1935. TANF is designed to assist families who are homeless and have the desire to transition from homelessness to permanent housing.

Who is eligible?

1) Families who have a child or children under 18 years old; 2) Who also are currently employed, have a Section 8 voucher or some type of assistance such as Welfare or Social Security; 3) have a total monthly gross income of less than 185% of the Federal Poverty Level for their household size (to be determined by housing specialist) and 4) Have available resources/assets valued at less than \$5,000.00.

What are the Housing Specialist responsibilities?

The Housing Specialist serves as the primary contact for the landlord/rental manager. The Housing Specialist develops and nurtures relationships that will provide housing opportunities for the programs’ clients. The Housing Specialist works with each client to match his or her needs and their families’ with the available rental housing committed to the program.

The Housing Specialist conducts an inspection of each unit to ensure that it meets HUD standards as well as works closely with the Landlord and client to ensure all parties are adhering to fair housing practices and other rules and regulations.



What is the role of the Case Manager?

The Case Manager develops a service plan with each client and works to provide short-term supportive services with long-term goals in mind to ensure that the client maintains their housing. The Case Manager meets with the clients over a period of three (3) months and makes a minimum of two home visits to insure that the unit is kept in proper order and the lease requirements are fulfilled.

What services does the Case Manager offer?

The Case Manager’s services include, but are not limited to: family counseling, independent living skills training, legal and benefits assistance and social support.

How long does this process take?

Once the Housing Specialist begins the process of assisting a family, all verifying documents are submitted to the Housing Specialist in a timely manner, and the rental unit is already found, the process is relatively quick. The Housing Specialist must work closely with the landlord and visit the rental unit for inspection. If everything passes, then paperwork is sent to accounting and a check is cut. The whole process can take as little as two (2) weeks.

What are the goals of the TANF program?

The anticipated outcomes of the TANF program are: 1) to reduce the length of time that families stay homeless; 2) assist program participants in retaining their housing; 3) to engage program participants in individual living skills training and; 4) to improve quality of live satisfaction among the participating families.



Each year, TANF programs help families find and maintain housing in the U.S.