



2000 Embarcadero Cove, STE 400
Oakland, CA 94606
(510) 777-2112
everyonehome@acbhcs.org



Housing/Living Situation Contract Expectations

In Fiscal Year 2011/2012, all Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services (BHCS) providers are expected to submit an annual report via a web-based survey to BHCS by July 10, 2012. The BHCS Quality Improvement focus on housing/living situation reflects a commitment to helping BHCS consumers with finding and keeping a home that supports their wellness and recovery. The federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Recovery Support Strategic Initiative has also identified a “Home” as one of four major dimensions that support a life in recovery¹. The Housing/Living Situation survey portion of this report prompts contractors to describe, which, if any, of the following activities they undertook over the past fiscal year within their agency’s BHCS-funded programs:

- Attended a BHCS-sponsored housing issues workshop or training
- Ensured that program staff are accurately reporting the housing/living situation of the clients they serve in the BHCS INSYST data system
- Helped clients apply for MSHA housing units or other affordable housing units as opportunities arose
- Used and/or helped improve BHCS-supported housing-related information and referral resources, i.e.:
 - ✓ “2-1-1” phone line
 - ✓ Housing Choices website: www.achousingchoices.org
 - ✓ Housing Services Office website: <http://www.acbhcs.org/housing>
- Helped clients in a housing crisis access BHCS-sponsored resources, i.e.:
 - ✓ BHCS EveryOne Home Fund
 - ✓ Dedicated emergency/crisis shelter beds
- Updated assessment approaches to ensure staff members ask about a client’s housing/living situation on a regular basis.
- Provided updates to the BHCS Housing Services Office about community living facility issues. A community living facility is a *“shared/group housing situation often utilized by low-income people, e.g., licensed board and cares, alcohol/drug free housing or sober living, room and board, transitional housing, single room occupancy hotels, and others”*.

Please direct any comments or questions about these housing activities to the Housing Services Office using the contact information at the top of this information sheet.

¹ SAMHSA’s four major dimensions that support recovery are: 1) Health; 2) Home; 3) Purpose; and 4) Community. Source: <http://www.samhsa.gov/recovery/>