

Program Contacts

Local Administrative Agencies

ANDROSCOGGIN, FRANKLIN, AND OXFORD COUNTIES

Common Ties Mental Health Services
P.O. Box 1319
Lewiston, ME 04243
Tel. 207-795-6710 Fax: 207-795-6714

YORK, CUMBERLAND, KNOX, LINCOLN, SAGadahoc, AND WALDO COUNTIES

Shalom House, Inc.
106 Gilman Street
Portland, ME 04102
Tel. 207-874-1080 Fax: 207-874-1077

AROOSTOOK, HANCOCK, PENOBSCOT, PISCATAQUIS, AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES

Community Health & Counseling Services
P.O. Box 425
Bangor, ME 04402-0425
Tel. 207-947-0366

KENNEBEC AND SOMERSET COUNTIES

Kennebec Behavioral Health
67 Eustis Parkway
Waterville, ME 04901
Tel. 207-873-2136 Fax: 207-660-4532

Central Administrative Agency (CAA)

STATEWIDE PROGRAM OVERSIGHT

Shalom House, Inc.
106 Gilman Street
Portland, ME 04102
Tel. 207-874-1080 Fax: 207-874-1077

What does BRAP do?

BRAP helps eligible tenants by paying part of their monthly rent to their landlords.

Eligible tenants pay 40% of their household income toward rent. The voucher pays the rest and can even pay a security deposit if you have no other resources.

A tenant can use a BRAP voucher for an apartment anywhere in the state, as long as the unit meets federal housing quality standards, and the rent is within program limits.

For more information, or to download an application, please visit:

<https://www.shalomhouseinc.org/subsidies/>

Provided by Shalom House, Inc, on behalf of
DHHS Office of Behavioral Health.

106 Gilman Street
Portland, ME 04102



BRIDGING RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Also known as BRAP, the program is a transitional supportive-housing program developed by Maine DHHS Office of Behavioral Health that assists clients with Serious Mental Illness by providing a bridge between psychiatric hospitalization, incarceration, and/or homelessness and more permanent housing options.



Program Eligibility**

BRAP serves adults with a Severe and Disabling Mental Illness who:

1. Meet Eligibility For Care Criteria for Community Support Services as defined by Section 17 of the MaineCare Benefits Manual; and
2. Currently receive SSI/SSDI benefits, have applied for benefits, or are in the process of appealing a denial; and
3. Have applied for a Section 8 Housing Voucher.

BRAP Priority Criteria

BRAP prioritizes all eligible applicants based on the following criteria:

1. They will be or have been discharged from a state owned or private psychiatric hospital bed; or a state funded residential treatment program in the last 30 days.
2. They will be, or have been released from a correctional facility in the last 30 days; or have been adjudicated through a mental health treatment court and meet Section 17 criteria.
3. They are literally homeless as defined by HUD.

HUD defines literal homelessness as someone who is:

- living in a place that is a public or private place that is not meant for human habitation.
- living in an emergency shelter (including, transitional housing and hotels/motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state and local government programs)
- exiting a hospital or other institution where they have resided for 90 days or less and were homeless before being admitted.

Please note: staying with friends or family does not qualify (i.e. couch surfing)

**Some restrictions and/or additional requirements may apply
**information and eligibility guidelines are subject to change as needed.*

Things to know

1. Tenants are responsible to pay 40% of their income towards rent. BRAP will cover the rest.
2. BRAP can pay a security deposit, up to one month's rent, if the tenant has no other resources available.
3. Once an apartment is found by a participant, the program will work with your landlord and negotiate the rent amount, security deposit, and other details in order to make the transition into housing as smooth as possible for the prospective tenant.
4. Every year, they will be required to complete an annual recertification each year.

Things we will ask for:

- Income verification for all adult household members.
 - Verification of your continued status on the Section 8/HCV waitlist.
 - Verification of your Social Security benefits, or the status of your appeal if initially denied.
 - The current composition of your household.
5. While in a unit, the program will be required to perform a Housing Quality Standards inspection Annually.
 6. All participants will be required to inform their local agency of any changes to their income and household make-up or living situation.
 7. For participants with no income, you will need to reach out to General Assistance to pay your portion of rent.
 8. There are no income limits on BRAP.
Please note: If 40% of your income is higher than your unit's rent, the program will be unable to pay towards your rent.

Other Available Resources

General Assistance – helps individuals and families to meet their basic needs You can apply in person for General Assistance at your local municipal office. If you have questions, please call 1-800-442-6003.

Community Action Agencies – These agencies provide a variety of services, including but not limited to, Rental/Mortgage Assistance, Food, Energy and Utility Bill Assistance, Water/Sewer Payment, Employment Training/Placement, Financial Management, and Temporary Shelter. If you have any questions, please contact your local CAP agency.

Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) - supports the outreach, engagement, and delivery of services to homeless individuals that have serious mental illnesses and/or co-occurring substance use disorder who are not supported by mainstream mental health programs.

211 – Call 2-1-1 to be connected to local health and human service assistance.

Home To Stay/Emergency Housing Vouchers - MaineHousing, in partnership with housing assistance agencies throughout the state, offers Housing Choice Vouchers through the Home to Stay Program for individuals and families who are homeless and seeking permanent housing. Please call 1-800-452-4600 for more information..

Stability Through Engagement Program / Tenant Based Rental Assistance (STEP / TBRA) - offers housing subsidies to facilitate the rapid re-housing of homeless individuals and families. Please contact MaineHousing for more information.

Section 8/HVC - provides rental assistance to income-eligible tenants by subsidizing a portion of their monthly rent and utilities and paying it directly to their landlords. If you have questions, or to get help applying, please call 1-866-357-4853.