

Providing Housing and Housing Supports to Individuals with Mental Illnesses

NRI's 2022 State Profiles

December 2022

Providing Housing for Individuals with Serious Mental Illnesses

Having safe and affordable housing is a critical need for individuals with serious mental illnesses to help them recover and live in their own communities. State Mental Health Authorities (SMHAs) work with local governments, other state agencies, and provider organizations to help develop and provide appropriate housing options for individuals with mental illnesses. In 2022, NRI collaborated with NASMHPD's Housing Task Force to collect from State Mental Health Agencies information about the Roles of SMHAs in providing housing and the types of housing and supports they provide.

Almost all (42 out of 44 responding) SMHAs help link mental health clients to resources and most SMHAs are involved in educating other agencies and programs about providing housing services and supports to individuals with mental illnesses. 73% of SMHAs provide rental subsidies and 82% of SMHAs provide education to clients about the housing system (see Figure 1).

Figure 1: SMHA Role in Providing Housing for Individuals with Mental Health Disorders, 2022

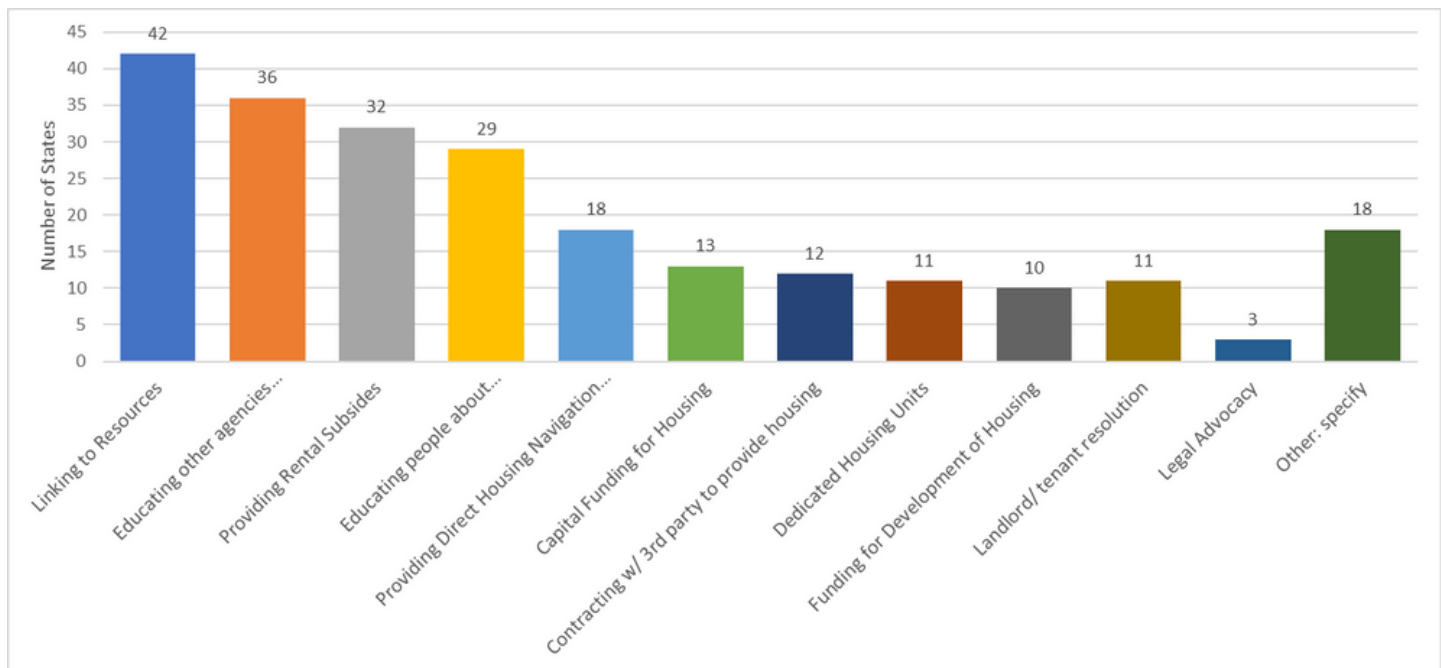


Figure 2 shows that most SMHAs focus housing resources on individuals who are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness. Housing for mental health clients who are experiencing justice involvement (in jails or prisons), patients leaving state psychiatric hospitals (80 percent of states), and clients at risk of institutionalization are also major focuses of SMHA work (76 percent of states).

71%

of SMHAs Provide Rental Subsidies

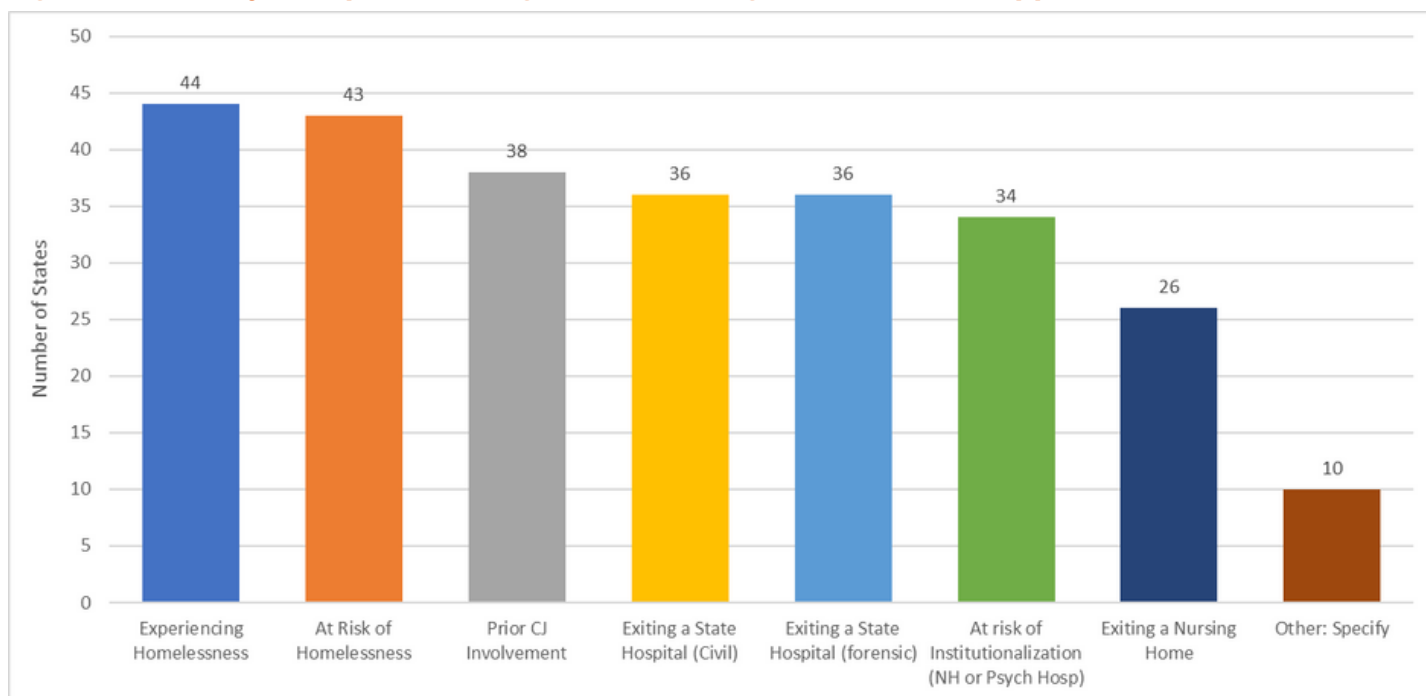
21 SMHAs

Have a Registry/Inventory of Available Community Housing

36 States

Received Dedicated Funding to Support Housing Services

Figure 2: Priority Groups Receiving SMHA Housing Services and Supports, 2022



Thirty-six SMHAs receive dedicated funding to support housing for one or more of the client groups, with a funding for homeless and individuals transitioning from institutional settings being the most frequent focus of dedicated housing funding.

Types of Housing Services Provided by SMHAs and their Funding Sources

Forty-one SMHAs provide Housing Services such as case management, housing navigation, supportive housing, while 40 SMHAs provide Housing Supports, and 37 SMHAs provide Housing Subsidies. State General Funds are the most frequently used funding source for housing activities. Medicaid and the SAMHSA Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) are used most frequently by SMHAs to provide housing services (see Table 1).

Table 1: Funding Sources Used to Support SMHA Housing, 2022

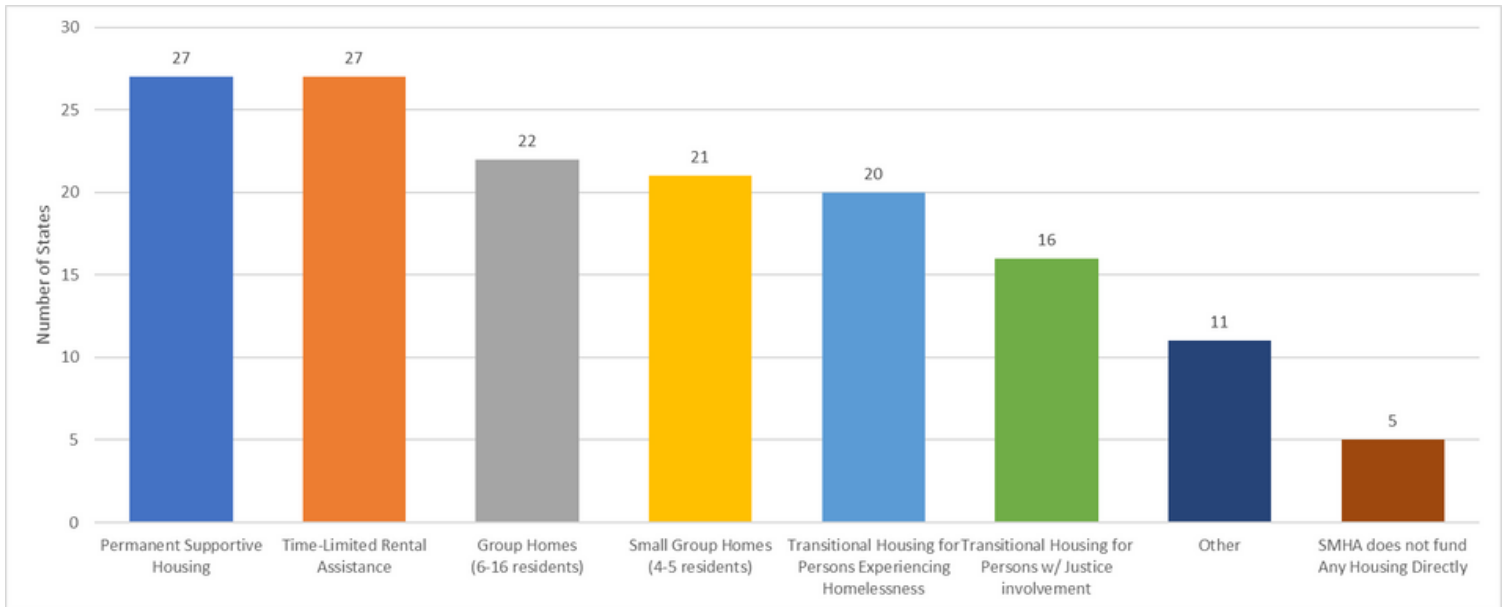
	State Funds	MHBG	Medicaid	Other	Total
Housing Subsidies	31	6	0	13	37
Housing Support (transitional funding, deposits, furniture)	35	8	1	15	40
Housing Services (Case management, Housing Navigation)	33	14	17	16	41
Housing Capital Costs	11	0	0	6	15
Housing Development (bricks and mortar)	14	0	0	5	17
Other	7	1	0	5	9

SMHAs use multiple funding sources so the sum of columns may exceed the Total column.

Types of Housing SMHAs Fund, 2022

Permanent Supportive housing and Time-limited rental assistance programs are the most frequent type of housing supported by SMHAs, followed by group homes (both larger resident group homes (6 to 16 beds), and small group homes (<6 beds). Almost half of SMHAs (45%) provide transitional housing for individuals experiencing homelessness and 36% of SMHAs provide transitional housing for individuals with justice system involvement (See figure 3). Four (4) SMHAs reported they are not funded to provide housing directly.

Figure 3: Types of Housing SMHAs Fund, by Number of States Funding, 2022



Twenty-eight SMHAs have agency-wide definitions of the types of housing they support and track. In 23 states they have developed standards for recovery housing. Nineteen states have certification or licensure standards for recovery housing and standards for recovery housing include resident rights in 17 states.

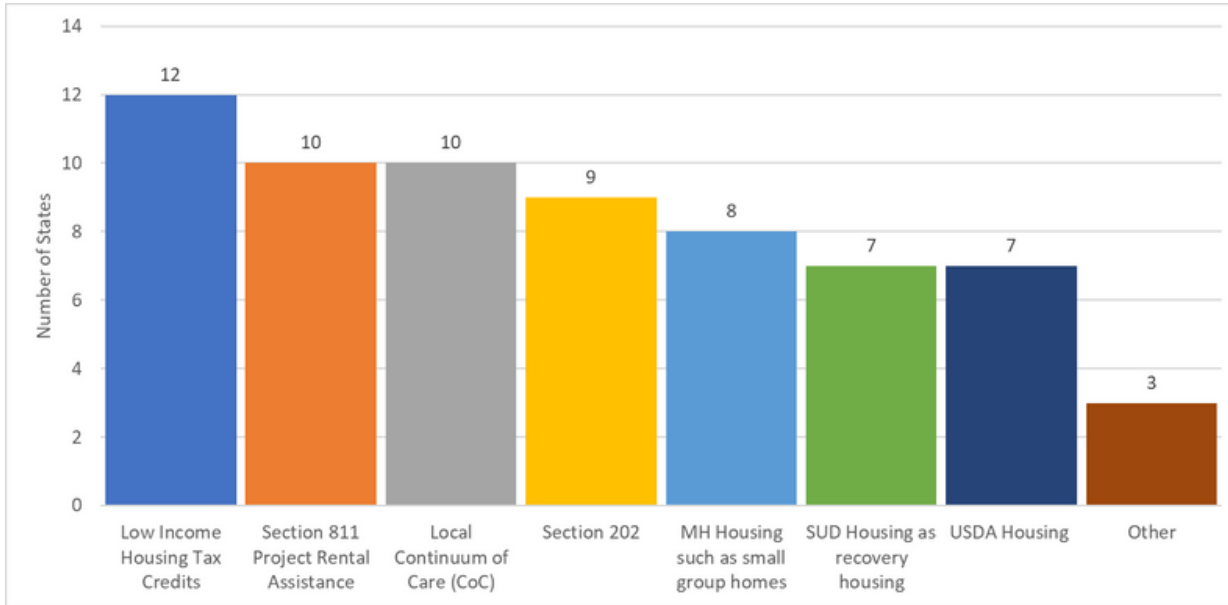
SMHAs working with regional or local mental health authorities to provide housing Services and Supports:

In many (60%) states, the SMHA delegates provision of housing supports and services to regional or local mental health authorities. In 19 states, the SMHA provides funding to the regional or local authority to provide rental assistance to individuals with mental illnesses.

Registries/Inventories of Available Housing, 2022

Twenty-one SMHAs have established statewide housing registries or inventories and 9 SMHAs are working to develop a housing registry/inventory. These are systems designed to track available housing options for mental health clients who need housing. In addition to SMHA housing, these registry/inventories include housing supported by other programs (see Figure 4)

Figure 4: Types of Housing Included in Housing Registry/Inventories, Number of States, 2022



SMHA Participation in Homeless Management Information Systems, 2022

The Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) sponsored initiative. HMIS are local information technology systems used to collect client-level data and data on the provision of housing and services to homeless individuals and families and persons at risk of homelessness. Each HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) program is responsible for selecting an HMIS software solution that complies with HUD's data collection, management, and reporting standards. Many SMHAs are collaborating with HMIS to track housing services and outcomes.

SMHA is Connected to Homeless MIS (HMIS)	Yes	No
SMHA Lead Agency	3	31
SMHA Funds HMIS	13	24
A different state agency is Responsible for HMIS	21	18
No state agencies are connected to HMIS	8	22

**For Additional Information About this Report, or the SMHA Profiles Project,
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