The Road to Housing Stability

Caritas of Austin’s Housing Stability program aims to serve the most vulnerable families and individuals experiencing homelessness and help build a path toward stability. Our team of case managers provide the foundation for this program’s success, as this partnership between clients and case managers is at the center of our services. Read below about how case managers and clients work together on the journey from crisis to self-sufficiency.

**HOUSING CRISIS**
Families and individuals become homeless for many reasons including a sudden illness or job loss.

**COORDINATED ASSESSMENT**
Calling Caritas’ Coordinated Assessment phone line is the first step in accessing services and helps us prioritize serving the most vulnerable people.

**HOUSING SEARCH**
Case managers spend hours contacting and visiting landlords and properties to advocate for their clients.

**CARITAS PANTRY**
Clients can get weekly groceries from the Caritas Pantry up to 10 times during their transition to stability.

**CONTACTING**
Calling Caritas’ Coordinated Assessment phone line is the first step in accessing services and helps us prioritize serving the most vulnerable people.

**CASE MANAGEMENT BEGINS**
Clients then meet with their case manager to begin a partnership that will lead them toward self-sufficiency over the next 6-12 months. Meetings are weekly until housing is identified.

**SETTING GOALS**
At their 2nd meeting, case managers and clients jointly develop goals in the areas of housing, income, and self-care. Goals are continually revisited in coming months.

**FINANCIAL LITERACY CLASSES**
Caritas’ Education program offers a Financial Literacy series to clients.

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**CREATING A BUDGET**
By creating a budget, clients are able to understand what housing they can afford and identify ways to decrease personal spending.

**OBTAIN HOUSING**
Securing stable, affordable housing is the most significant milestone in Caritas’ work to support clients.

**COMMUNITY REFERRALS**
Case managers also spend a significant amount of time helping connect clients with community referrals to mental health and medical services, and other nonprofit service providers.

**TRANSITIONING**
Once housing and employment are obtained, meetings become less frequent and are focused on transitioning out of Caritas’ Housing Stability program successfully.

**JOB SEARCH**
Case manager and client work together to find employment through a referral to Caritas’ Employment team or other partner agencies.

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**
Caritas can provide financial assistance up to a maximum of $5,000 to help with rent, deposits, utilities, and past debt.

**LIFE SKILLS CLASSES**
To set clients up for success, Caritas’ Education program also offers a Life Skills class series.

**HOME VISIT**
Shortly after move-in, case managers visit clients at their new home to ensure the transition has gone smoothly.

**OBTAIN EMPLOYMENT**
Finding employment helps ensure people have the resources necessary to maintain stable housing and provide for their basic needs.

**HOME FURNISHINGS**
Caritas is able to help provide basic home furnishings like beds, living room furniture, and kitchen supplies.

**SELF-SUFFICIENCY**
While clients have successfully reached their goals of achieving self-sufficiency when exiting this program, we know that life is a continual journey of maintaining stability and our goal is to have equipped them with the tools and confidence to do so.

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80% OF FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS HAVE ACHIEVED SELF-SUFFICIENCY WHEN EXITING PROGRAM