

Tara Hall

From: Fox, Eric S <Eric.Fox@dhhs.nc.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2022 12:31 PM
To: RentalHelp
Subject: public comment / increase from 5% to 10%

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Good afternoon –

My name is Eric S. Fox and I am the Field Director for NC's Money Follows the Person Demonstration Program. I work on the Aging & Physical Disability side of the house. At any given point in time we are working with about 200 participants across the state.

Our goal is to transition individuals out of Skilled Nursing Facilities back to their own homes or with their families **OR** to link and assist them in moving to an independent residence of their own.

About 2/3 of our MFP participants come to us in need of housing. As such – at any point we are looking to help about 130 people secure housing statewide.

We are NOT a housing program but work in conjunction and partner with Targeted Housing to get our individuals on respective waitlists for property openings as well as Section 8.

The capacity is **NOT** there. We desperately need more FULLY ACCESSIBLE UNITS. We are completely in support of going from 5% to 10% Type A units with curbless showers.

For our elderly and frail individuals, we need these to be on the FIRST floor. Egress during a fire is compromised on second and third floor units for our individuals.

We work with DVR/IL to make environmental changes within units. It would be extremely cost effective and efficient to have units FULLY ACCESSIBLE with curbless showers from the get-go than to have to invest additional time and money into making environmental accommodations after the fact.

An individual in Sampson County in our program was still 6th on the waitlist for the one property offered through Targeted Housing after waiting more than 6 years. This is unacceptable. He did not have the flexibility to select another county as all of his informal supports lived in Sampson County. When the family learned of his plight, they finally did step up to locate an affordable unit within Sampson County.

This is just one example of many. We need increased capacity in order to transition people safely back into the community.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Eric S. Fox

Eric S. Fox, M.A.

Field Director, Money Follows the Person Demonstration Project
Division of Health Benefits, NC Medicaid

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DHB/Money Follows the Person
2501 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-2501

Please update your records with our new fax number (919) 882-1664. Thank you!

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Tara Hall

From: Fox, Eric S <Eric.Fox@dhhs.nc.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2022 12:53 PM
To: RentalHelp
Subject: public comment / 5% to 10% YESSSSS - PART 2

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Hello –

Just wanted to also add that **RURAL** communities are in desperate need of help. Our individuals have family supports in their rural communities and cannot just pick up and move to either Raleigh or Charlotte. They need FULLY ACCESSIBLE housing options with curbless showers in their own counties. Again – for our aging and physically disabled population, they MUST be on the FIRST FLOOR. Making the units fully accessible upfront will save both time and money of not having to completed renovations after the fact. Such an opportunity to be proactive here!!!
Thank you,
Eric S. Fox

Eric S. Fox, M.A.
Field Director, Money Follows the Person Demonstration Project
Division of Health Benefits, NC Medicaid

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