



December 9, 2021

To: Special Committee on Kansas Mental Health Modernization and Reform

From: Matthew Moore, Fiscal Analyst

Re: Responses to Questions Asked During the November 17 Meeting

Is there a Cap on the funding received through Lottery Vending Revenue for Community Crisis Stabilization Services?

KSA 74-8711(e)(2) limits moneys transferred to the community crisis stabilization centers fund and the clubhouse model program fund at the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) to \$8.0 million in FY 2020 and each fiscal year thereafter. KSA 74-8711(e)(1) indicates that 75.0 percent of the total transfer from the lottery operating fund shall be transferred to the community crisis stabilization centers fund. Therefore, the limit transferred to the fund is \$6.0 million. Currently, the statute does not have a sunset.

What is the breakdown of the Housing Programs referenced on the mental health funding chart?

There are four housing programs which are included in that line item "Housing Programs" on the mental health funding chart: PATH Program; Interim Housing Grants; Supported Housing Program; and the Housing First Program. Below are descriptions for each program:

- **PATH Program.** The Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) Program provides funds to each state to support services for individuals who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless with serious mental illnesses, including individuals with co-occurring serious mental illnesses and substance use disorders.

In Kansas, the PATH Program supports the delivery of eligible services to persons who are homeless or precariously housed and have Serious Mental Illness (SMI) and co-occurring substance use disorders, with an emphasis on adults who are literally homeless. PATH funds are used to provide an array of allowable services, including street outreach, case management, and services that are not supported by mainstream mental health programs.

- **Interim Housing Grants.** Interim Housing (IH) projects assist homeless persons experiencing SMI who may also have a co-occurring substance use disorder (SUD) or youth who are 18 to 21 years of age with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED). SMI is defined as a diagnosable mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder of sufficient duration to cause serious functional impairment in an individual's major life activities.

Interim Housing projects are short-term (up to six months), project-based housing that provide immediate community-based housing for persons who are homeless with an emphasis on those who are homeless and being discharged from inpatient or residential mental health or substance use treatment facility (e.g., a state psychiatric hospital (SPH), nursing facility for mental health (NFMH), SUD facility, or community hospital inpatient psychiatric program).

- **Supportive Housing Program.** The Supported Housing Fund (SHF) Program provides affordable housing linked to services to low-income, homeless, or potentially homeless individuals experiencing SMI. The goal is to provide persons with SMI the help and support they need to stay housed and live more independent, healthy, productive, and fulfilling lives. The SHF Program supports eligible individuals to obtain and maintain housing in the least restrictive environment possible. This is achieved by providing temporary funds to meet the cost of their housing needs.
- **Housing First Program.** The Housing First Program aims to provide housing first model services to uninsured Kansans with lived experience of mental health and substance use diagnosis disorders who received treatment through SAMHSA's Combined Federal Block Grant (MHBG/SABG). The Program is intended to serve uninsured homeless or at-risk of homelessness Individuals with disabilities as they reintegrate into the community from institutional settings (IMDs). Consumers served by the Program will be linked to federal benefits for persons with disabilities such as the Housing and Urban Development, Social Security Administration Ticket to Work, Vocational Rehabilitation, Veteran's Administration, and other federal programs that Kansans with disabilities are entitled to access.

The Program focuses on teaching consumers to access and sustain permanent supportive community housing, thereby ensuring state compliance with federal law. The target population for this Program are consumers with disabilities who are homeless at time of admission or upon exiting institutional care in state hospitals, state correctional facilities, county jails, detox units, and Nursing Facilities for Mental Health (NFMH).

What was the FY 2020 \$39.00 expenditure in the Regional Beds line on the Mental Health Funding Chart?

According to KDADS, that item was a Medicaid payment that was miscoded and inadvertently added to that line. The regional beds line is wholly state funded.