

The General Assistance Recovery Supports Program

Food, clothing & shelter are basic necessities that serve as the building blocks for maintaining a stable life. Consider for a moment a person in recovery from a serious health condition who isn't able to meet these basic needs. Imagine how difficult it would be to attain and sustain recovery from a mental health or substance use disorder with the additional stress caused by not having a safe place to live, food to eat, or the clothing needed to return to work.

The DMHAS **General Assistance Recovery Supports Program (GA RSP)** is committed to helping State-Administered General Assistance (SAGA) recipients meet their basic needs. GA RSP provides crucial recovery support services to individuals engaged in behavioral health treatment with the goal of assisting them to remain in treatment while promoting recovery, independence, employment, self-sufficiency, and stability.

GA RSP offers recovery support services such as:

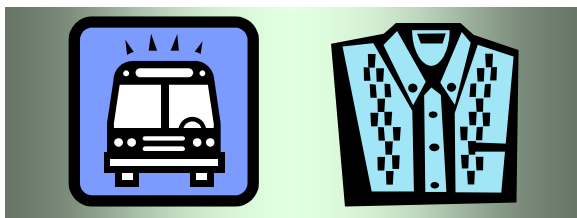
- Recovery housing
- Independent housing
- Bus passes
- Food
- Clothing
- Personal care items



GA RSP has a contracted network of 33 congregate recovery housing providers with over **80 sites** throughout the state. Each site has been certified by DMHAS. The network includes:

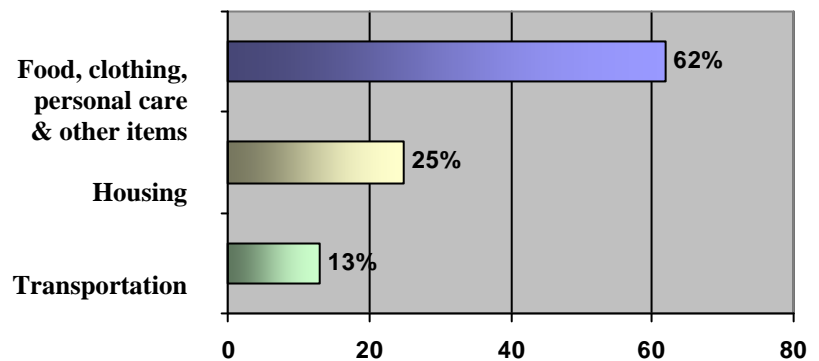
- Non-smoking houses
- Gender specific houses
- Houses offering faith-based and/or peer-based services

- ✚ GA RSP receives over **14,545 applications** from **7,135 individuals** annually
- ✚ Applications can contain multiple requests for a variety of supports
- ✚ Applicants are **notified within one (1) day** of the outcome of their applications, on average



25% of all GA RSP payments are for recovery housing.

Percentage of Requests



More individuals have been received an increased quantity of GA RSP services over the last three years, and the outcomes continue to be positive. **In FY '08, 70% of GA RSP service recipients connected to the next level of care following an inpatient admission in comparison to 49% of individuals who did not receive recovery supports. Moreover, 25% of individuals who did not receive recovery supports dropped out of treatment following an inpatient admission in contrast to 11% of GA RSP service recipients.** Thus, the General Assistance Recovery Supports Program continues to increase connections to care and promote treatment retention in an effort to strengthen treatment outcomes and encourage recovery.