

Our Mission

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More information on the application
process may be viewed at:

<https://sites.google.com/a/dcs.ga.gov/housing/provider-info>

As an integral part of the criminal justice system, we protect and serve all Georgia citizens through effective and efficient offender supervision in our communities, while providing opportunities for successful outcomes.

Why is housing so important?

A common obstacle to successful reentry is the lack of stable housing. For offenders, housing is a stabilizing force that provides a consistent base to access employment, treatment for mental health, or substance abuse disorders, and other support services.

Additionally, stable housing may help offenders restore connections with community resources, family, and positive social networks. Unfortunately, many are unable to secure safe and affordable housing and experience homelessness.

National data (2016) shows that nearly 50,000 people a year enter shelters directly after release from correctional facilities, which creates a revolving door scenario between homelessness and incarceration. The Department of Community Supervision understands the importance of providing housing for this population.

REENTRY PARTNERSHIP HOUSING



**A COLLABORATION OF STATE
AGENCIES TO PROVIDE HOUSING
TO RETURNING CITIZENS**



Introduction

The Reentry Partnership Housing (RPH) Program is a means to provide housing to qualified individuals under the supervision of Department of Community Supervision (DCS). Certified Reentry Housing Partners provide stable housing and food to these individuals. The goal of the RPH Program is to provide short term housing assistance to help stabilize an individual's reentry process and enhance his or her ability to remain crime free.

The RPH Program involves a strong collaboration between DCS, Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC), Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA), and the Georgia Council of Accountability Court Judges (CACJ).

The State of Georgia is experiencing an expensive and continuing problem finding appropriate housing options for certain offenders experiencing homelessness as well as finding housing for participants in accountability courts. Some offenders are eligible for release but cannot be released because they do not have an appropriate housing option so they remain incarcerated at great expense to the State or local

jurisdiction. The RPH Program also serves as an effort to enable certain offenders' participation in accountability courts when housing is an issue. Assistance provided by the RPH Program will be for up to six (6) months, as determined by the participants' tier level.

Who Can Participate

Individuals eligible for RPH include:

- Persons who remain in prison after the Parole Board has authorized their release due solely to having no valid residence plan
- Persons under DCS supervision who have been released from prison or jail in the last 120 day and have no residence options
- Active participants in an accountability court (felony drug, mental health, veterans, or family treatment) who are homeless or are facing loss of housing within two weeks

The following individuals are not eligible for RPH:

- offenders with registrable sex offenses
- offenders with a primary mental health diagnosis that is at a level IV or higher according to GDC criteria

Information for New Providers

Application windows for prospective RPH providers occur twice yearly, in the fall and spring. Potential providers must submit an Intent to Apply Form and attend a mandatory Application Process Workshop prior to submitting an application during a 30-day application window.

Implementation Timeline

- July 2017 - Agency partners executed the new RPH agreement to include accountability courts
- September 2017 - Window for potential RPH providers to submit a Letter of Intent
- October 2017 - Mandatory trainings held throughout the state for potential housing providers
- November 2017 - New provider applications are submitted and evaluated, and applicants start to receive site visits
- December 2017 - All applications are processed, and site visits are scheduled
- January 2018 - The RPH program expansion is fully implemented, and providers are accepting referrals statewide