



LEE COUNTY

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

2007 HOMELESS CONTINUUM OF CARE STRATEGIC PLAN

**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
2007 Supportive Housing Program
2007 Shelter Plus Care Program
Consolidated Application**

Prepared in Conjunction with:

**Lee County Homeless Coalition
State of Florida District 8 Department of Children and Families**

Submitted by:

**Lee County Board of County Commissioners
Lee County Department of Human Services**

Submitted: 5/22/07

O: CoC Discharge Planning Policy Chart

Publicly Funded Institution(s) or System(s) of Care in CoC Geographic Area	None	Initial Discussion	Protocol in Development	Formal Protocol Finalized	Formal Protocol Implemented
Foster Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mental Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Corrections	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Foster Care:
Foster Care Discharge Protocol
Housing and services for persons graduating from the Florida Foster Care program.
 The Lee County Continuum of Care Foster Care Discharge Protocol consists of a Memorandum of Agreement with the Children's Network of Southwest Florida and its *Independent Living Program*, which funds education and associated rent and basic assistance to youth discharged from the system. Assistance is provided through age 21 if the educational program is maintained. Lee County Foster Care Programs are operated under the state-contracted Children's Network of Southwest Florida

Additional Services:
 Youth, who are age 18 or older or emancipated minors exiting from Foster Care, may be eligible to receive financial assistance with first month's rent, if they meet qualifying criteria, from the Emergency Assistance programs offered by the Lee County Department of Human Services and the Cape Coral Caring Center. Referrals are to private landlords not subsidized with homeless grants.

Health Care:
Hospital Discharge Protocol
Housing and services for persons leaving Lee County Hospitals
 The Lee County Continuum of Care Hospital Discharge Protocol consists of a Memorandum of Agreement with the Lee Memorial Health System (LMHS) to conduct discharge planning with patients. The System Discharge Policy directs that patients are not discharged to the streets, unless it is the patient's preference after being informed of the possible consequences of his/her decision. Housing referrals are to private landlords rather than homeless grant- assisted housing with limited exceptions when conditions demand.

Additional Services:
 Persons exiting Hospitals may be eligible to receive financial assistance with first month's rent, if they meet qualifying criteria, from the Emergency Assistance programs offered by the Lee County Department of Human Services and the Cape Coral Caring Center. The Lee Homeless CoC maintains regular contact with the head (LMHS) System Social Worker to minimize disruption from staff turnover at local health care institutions, and helps train staff.

Mental Health:

Mental Health Discharge Protocol for Persons with Mental Health Disability

Housing and services for persons discharged from Mental Health agencies.

The Lee County Continuum of Care Mental Health Discharge Protocol consists of a Memorandum of Agreement with the Ruth Cooper Center to coordinate discharge services for persons with mental health disability. Coordinated discharge services focus on avoiding discharge into homelessness or to homeless grant funded- facilities.

Additional Services:

Persons exiting Mental Health Residential Treatment may be eligible to receive financial assistance with first month's rent, if they meet qualifying criteria, from the Emergency Assistance programs offered by the Lee County Department of Human Services and the Cape Coral Caring Center.

Corrections:

Correction Discharge Protocols

Housing and services for persons discharged from Corrections Institutions

The Lee County Continuum of Care Corrections Institutions Discharge Protocol consists of a Memoranda of Agreement with the Lee County Sheriff's Office. A second protocol exists between the Continuum and the Lee County Mental Health Court. Coordinated discharge services focus on avoiding discharge into homelessness or to homeless grant funded- facilities. The Lee CoC has a Discharge Planning Subcommittee that exchanges information on resources and conducts discharge planning.

Additional Services:

Persons exiting Corrections Institutions may be eligible to receive financial assistance with first month's rent, if they meet qualifying criteria, from the Emergency Assistance programs offered by the Lee County Department of Human Services and the Cape Coral Caring Center.