

This document provides details about the 811 Project Rental Assistance (PRA) Program and how Adult Autism Waiver (AAW) Supports Coordinators can access this program for AAW participants in need of housing supports.

What can BSASP do to help with housing?

The Bureau of Supports for Autism and Special Populations (BSASP) assists Adult Autism Waiver (AAW) Supports Coordinators (SCs) and participants with the 811 **Project Rental Assistance (PRA) Program** by collaborating directly with **Self Determination Housing of Pennsylvania (SDHP)**, collecting applications, entering application information into the housing database (known as PAIR), and coordinating with the SC when a unit becomes available. BSASP has a Housing Lead that serves as the point of contact with SDHP to ensure 811 housing opportunities are made available to participants in the Adult Autism Waiver.

What is Section 811 PRA?

The Section 811 **Project Rental Assistance (PRA)** Program is a statewide housing subsidy program that provides permanent supportive housing through a combination of rental assistance and long-term services and supports to low-income people with disabilities, ages 18-61.

What is SDHP? How is it related to PRA?

Self Determination Housing of Pennsylvania (SDHP) collaborates with the **Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA)** and the Department of Human Services (DHS) to assess eligibility, administer the 811 PRA Program waiting list and to provide education, technical assistance, and outreach to fill the units committed to the 811 PRA program throughout Pennsylvania.

How does someone get connected with SDHP?

The SC assesses housing interest with the participant and discusses available housing options.



The SC contacts the BSASP RO Rep to be put in touch with the BSASP Housing Lead, who will send the SC an 811 application.



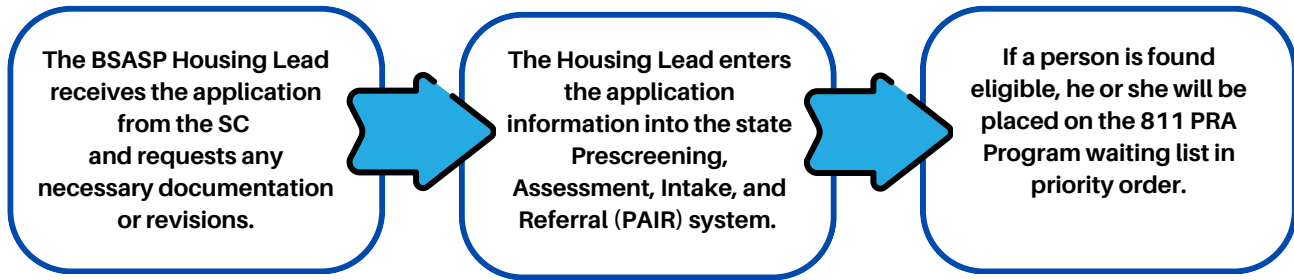
The SC helps the participant to complete the 811 application and then emails the completed application to the BSASP Housing Lead.



The SC helps the participant in obtaining additional documentation/verification, if needed.



What happens after the participant's application is submitted?



What is the priority order?

Priority 1: Institutionalized	Priority 2: At Risk of Institutionalized	Priority 3: Living in Congregate Care
<p>Persons who are institutionalized, but able to live in the community in permanent supportive housing.</p> <p>Including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public and private psychiatric hospitals • Nursing facilities • Public and private facilities for those with Intellectual Disabilities or Other Related Conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persons who are at risk of institutionalization and have no permanent supportive housing. <p>Including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Persons who require frequent ER visits for psychiatric evaluation or emergency commitment, inpatient psychiatric unit stays, and/or crisis intervention services and/or crisis intervention services. ◦ Homeless ◦ Persons living with caregivers in unstable situations ◦ Living alone and increasingly in need of support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who are living with caregivers in unstable situations, living with elderly caregivers. 	<p>Persons who are living in a congregate setting and are seeking housing within the community.</p> <p>Including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Residential Rehabilitation facilities • Long Term Structured Residential facilities • Domiciliary Care • Group Homes (i.e., community living arrangements for individuals with ID or autism) • Residential Treatment Facilities



Then what?

- 1 The participant remains on the list until a unit matching their needs is located.
- 2 A Regional Housing Coordinator (RHC) will contact the SC listed on the application.
- 3 The SC discusses the details (location, cost, etc.) of the available unit with the participant.
- 4 If the participant wants to pursue that unit, the participant submits the property application to the property manager.
- 5 If approved, the participant has the option to sign a lease and secure a move in date.



What are the Support Coordinators' responsibilities throughout the process?

Planning

- **Using the LifeCourse tools** to help the participant to envision what he or she wants for housing options and what things are important to him or her.
- **Helping the participant** develop realistic expectations and preferences for housing selection.
- **Explaining responsibilities and agreements** (e.g., what a lease or deposit is).

Applying

- **Assisting the participant** with all steps of the application process, including obtaining and submitting documentation (e.g., photo identification, social security card, benefit award letter, bank statements, et cetera, etc.)
- **Communicating with the RO and BSASP Housing Lead** as needed for referral, coordination, and updates.

Selecting

- **Discussing the details of housing options and supporting the participant** to consider environmental options (e.g., access to transportation, employment options near potential housing, etc.).

Preparing

- **Helping the participant** complete pre-move activities (e.g., ensuring utilities are turned on, that the participant has household items that he or she will need, etc.).
- **Determining with the rest of the ISP team** what changes to waiver supports may be necessary to help the participant in his or her new home.

Advocating

- **Collaborating with the rest of the ISP team and other natural supports** to assign individuals the most appropriate options to support the participant with housing responsibilities (i.e., timely payment of rent, communication about needs and repairs, negotiation with others if needed, et cetera, etc.).
- **Helping the participant** find resources to help to manage finances if needed, such as finding a representative payee, if desired.

Monitoring

- **Reporting any changes** that may affect 811 eligibility to the BSASP RO and Housing Lead.
- **Checking with the participant and other team members** regularly to prevent or quickly determine any problems with housing.

Trouble-shooting

- **Helping the participant** find solutions to problems or conflicts if they arise.