

Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families

Implementation of Act 81: An Act Relating to Adult Protective Services and Emergency Housing

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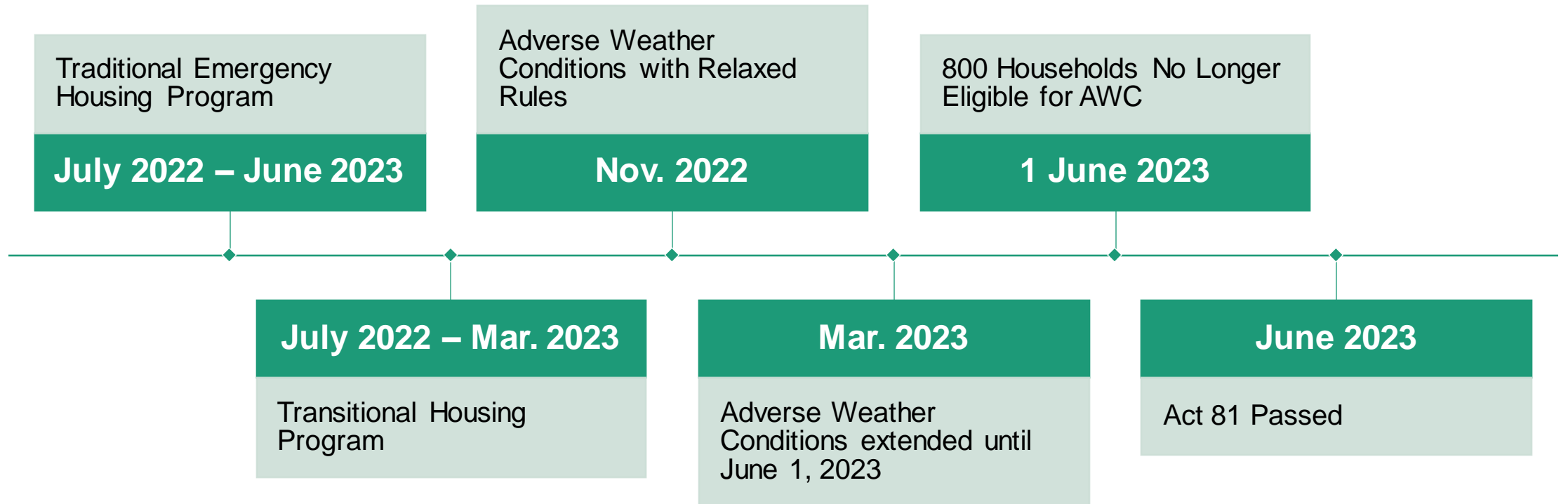
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and Families

The General Assistance Emergency Assistance Housing SFY'23 Program Timeline



Act 81

- Became law on June 29, 2023
- Provides an extended housing benefit for households categorically eligible under the BAA category and housed on June 30, 2023
- The housing benefit ends on April 1, 2024
- Requirements of households to remain eligible:
 - Participate in coordinated entry and case management;
 - Engaged in finding alternative housing;
 - Engaged in screening and case management through AHS or identified partner;
 - 30% income contribution
- No longer Eligible if a household:
 - Declines an appropriate housing placement;
 - Or the household is asked to leave a hotel or motel due to misconduct



The Big Picture (as of 9/26/2023)



1,283

Number of households in the 6/30 cohort on July 1



874

Number of households in the 6/30 cohort on September 26



409

Number of households transitioned out of 6/30 cohort since July 1



\$133

Average nightly rate this week

Eligibility Category of Households

This is the current eligibility data on all households in the June Cohort Housing program as of 9/26/2023.

Eligibility Category	6/30 Cohort Households
Age 60+	64
Death of a Spouse or Minor Child	0
Disabled (SSI/SSDI)	478
Domestic Violence	35
Families with Children	204
Health Code Violations/Eviction	77
Natural Disaster (Fire, Flood, Hurricane)	4
Pregnant	12
Vulnerable Population Points	0
Total	874

Notes: the [range of individuals in SSI/SSDI](#) crosses a range of acuity and health challenge– it can be mental health, chronic health condition, or a physical disability. However, everyone must have had a determination by the federal Social Security Administration.

6/30 Cohort Exit Reasons (as of 9/26)

Exit Reason	# HH
Client left or did not renew without notifying State of plan	191
Permanent housing	126
Exited for misconduct	49
Moved out of State	11
Client Died	9
Admitted to hospital/Treatment Facility	6
Joined another household	<6
Refused Shelter Bed	<6
Incarcerated	<6
Housed by another agency	<6
Not willing to pay for self-pay nights	<6
Not engaged with case management/coordinated entry	<6
Grand Total	409
# of Households that exited cohort and are in regular GA hotel program	43

Barriers

- Lack of housing, but more specifically affordable housing units
- Staffing challenges both within the state, contractors, and partners
- High call volumes, which led to long wait times*
- Running two programs:
 - Widespread confusion on eligibility for someone in the June Cohort versus eligibility for the general population
 - There is extra support and time built in for the June Cohort
 - 28 or 84 days is not a long time for someone to be connected to services before they are no longer eligible.
- Room Rate Negotiations
 - There is little to no incentive for motels/hotels to decrease their price, though many have to some extent.

*Call volumes were addressed by adding a contractor (20 positions in the beginning of September at \$1.2M; call wait times on average are under 2 minutes)



How Act 81 Is Going Locally: Updates From AHS Field Services Director Duquette- Hoffman

Strategies To Address Homelessness

- Use the coordinated entry system to identify alternative housing and supports for the 6/30 cohort.
- Shift away from motels as temporary housing to a combination of congregate and non-congregate shelters.
- Invest in multiple levels of intervention.
- Invest to help ensure services, supports, training and coaching are available to those who need help remaining stably housed.
- Modernize our regulatory system to account for – and allow for – the housing our residents need.