

## **Persons With Disabilities**

To be eligible to participate in a Shelter Plus Care funded project, a person must be both homeless and disabled. In the case of a homeless family, at least one adult member must be considered disabled.

Persons with disabilities are those who have a disability that:

- Is expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration;
- Substantially impedes his or her ability to live independently; **and**
- Is such a nature that the disability could be improved by more suitable housing conditions. The disability may be a physical, mental, or emotional impairment, including an impairment due solely to alcohol or drug abuse.

Several disabilities are specifically targeted by the S+C Program. These targeted disabilities are:

- Serious mental illness
- Chronic alcohol and/or other drug abuse
- AIDS or related diseases

The disability may also be developmental. A severe, chronic developmental disability is characterized as

- Being caused by mental or physical impairment;
- Manifested before the person is 22 years old;
- Likely to continue indefinitely;
- Reflecting a need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic care, treatment, or other services that are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated; and
- Resulting in substantial functional limitations in at least three of the following areas: self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction, capacity for independent living, and economic self-sufficiency.

## **S+C Tips**

In developing your application, we want to help you avoid problems that could hamper your ability to qualify. Here are circumstances to avoid:

- If a structure you plan to use in your project is currently occupied, you should be aware of the complex relocation requirements that will apply. Contact your HUD Field Office Relocation Specialist or an experienced governmental relocation agency, in the planning stage of your project to ensure that you have addressed this issue properly.
- Environmental problems can be very expensive and time-consuming. Factors to consider are the presence of lead-based paint (particularly if you are proposing to serve families with children) and asbestos.
- Activities that are not eligible for assistance include:
  - Assistance for non-disabled participants
  - Assistance for transitional housing