



Fact Sheet and Program Guide - 2017

We are...

- A not for profit 501(c) 3 charity dedicated to ending homelessness within the Capital Region.
- Governed by a Board of Directors and managed by a team of professionals
- Celebrating 89 years of dedicated service to our community (established in 1927).

Our mission is to end homelessness within the New York State Capital Region. In keeping with our mission, we meet the 24/7 hour need for homeless shelter, food, and clothing while also addressing the long term need for affordable housing, full-time employment, and the support services necessary to ensure long term stability.

Our Programs

24HHES (Homeless Housing Emergency Services)

Since 1983 HATAS has been the central intake, assessment, and referral point for the Albany County emergency homeless system since 1983. The goal of the HHES program is to ensure that qualified homeless households within Albany County have access to emergency shelter. The program is funded by the Albany County Department of Social Services (ACDSS) at the rate of \$98,700 per year. The current contract expires on September 30th, 2017 and we are unsure as to whether or not it will be renewed at this time. Historically, the 24HHES Program served as the first point of contact for homeless households however over the course of 2015 and 2016, the Albany County Department of Social Services (ACDSS) has provided more services during business hours. This has resulted in a reduction in both FTE and funding. *Currently, the program is in transition and effective Feb 1st, 2017 we expect to have .25 FTE assigned to the program during business hours and 1.25 FTE assigned to the program afterhours.*

The Code Blue Program is a homeless winter housing program intended for homeless adults living on the street. HATAS coordinates Code Blue activities, organizes the partners, and handles press relations. The Code Blue Partnership includes the following entities; Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless, the Capital City Rescue Mission, the Homeless Action Committee, Capital District Transportation Authority (CDTA), Catholic Charities, Albany Public Libraries, Albany Medical Center (AMC), and the Albany Police Department (APD).

A Code Blue alert is called when the temperature is expected to be 32 degrees or less (including wind chill). Code Blue principles require that entities admit homeless persons without requiring them to reveal their social security number, date of birth, or name. The goal of the Code Blue program is to ensure that street homeless persons have access to shelter when the temperature is thirty-two degrees or less. The Code Blue Program is funded through private donations.

Impact: Homeless households have efficient, effective access to homeless services 24/7.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Housing

HATAS has 104 vouchers for permanent housing for homeless households with a disability. The majority of units require a serious and persistent mental illness. The vouchers fall within the purview of the Albany County Continuum of Care (CoC) and the program is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The primary goal of the HATAS Housing Program is to ensure long term housing stability. In addition to housing stability, the program seeks to increase household income and build self-sufficiency. Oversight for the program is provided, in large part, by the Albany County Continuum of Care (CoC). The HATAS housing program is divided into four projects (Pathways I, Pathways II, Shelter plus Care, and Forensic)

New – HATAS was awarded \$22,000 (reallocated funds) in support of the Coordinated Entry (CE) Program. We were also recently awarded \$9,000 from the United Way to support this program. CE ensures uniform and equitable access to homeless housing units within Albany County.

The PSH Program, in total, generates approximately \$762,000 annually. The majority of these funds are used to pay rents. All of the grants renew on an annual basis (differing times).

Impact: Permanent supported housing breaks the cycle of homelessness – families and individuals no longer ricochet between shelter, street, housing and hospital.

Community Transition Team (CTT)

The CTT provide support to mentally ill persons transitioning from hospitals and other institutions back to the community. We also provide the services which help people manage their finances and stay connected with treatment and employment. Funds for this program pass through the Albany County Department of Mental Health (ACDMH) and originate with the NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH). Annual funds total \$387,000, on average. Several milestones are associated with the Mental Health Group of Programs and are available in a separate document. CTT members serving within this program are stationed at the Capital District Psychiatric Center (CDPC) on New Scotland Avenue.

Impact: Community mental health services can be the difference between stability and hospitalization or homelessness.

Homeless Rapid Re-housing (Solutions to End Homelessness Program – STEHP)

STEHP combines intensive case management with a rental subsidy to homeless single adults struggling with multiple barriers including mental illness, chronic homelessness, substance abuse, and a prison record. The program seeks to put a permanent end to decades of struggle by supporting the journey from homelessness with one-on-one intensive case management.

STEHP is funded through an annual grant with NYSOTDA at the rate of \$144,000 per year. This is a five year grant which began October 2014 and auto renews. The primary milestone is based on the number of successful housing outcomes on an annual basis and at a minimum; the program is expected to demonstrate that 11 single adults are in a permanent and sustainable

housing unit.

Impact: Within the first contract year, 12 single adults ended their decade's long condition of homelessness.

Prison Re-entry Program

Re-entry serves parolees returning to Albany County from NYS Prisons. The program goal is to reduce recidivism through housing stability, employment, and support services. HATAS helps parolees find a place to live, secure employment, and obtain a NYS ID. We also partner with the Trinity Alliance Capital South Campus to teach an approved CBI (Cognitive Behavioral Intervention) called Ready Set Work (RSW). RSW is designed to specifically assist parolees in their search for meaningful employment. Each RSW session lasts five weeks and the students meet once per week for four hours. Funding is provided through Albany County Department of Mental Health (ACDMH) with the original source being DCJS (Department of Criminal Justice Services).

Success is measured through milestones (intakes, 45 day retentions, enrollment within a CBI, and CBI grads). This is a pay for performance contract (\$100,000) and on July 1st, 2016, we'll enter into our third year contract.

Impact: high risk parolees are assisted with the transition from prison to home through employment and housing support.

Housing and Employment Center + Kids Zone

Over 110 at-risk and homeless adult use "The Center" every month to find jobs, search for affordable apartments, apply for benefits, attend online classes, and connect with family and friends through social media. A large portion of employment opportunities are advertised solely online through sites like Craig's List and Monster.com; however, those most in-need of employment do not have consistent supported access to the internet. Through a needs assessment, we determined that those most in need of employment (the homeless), have the least dependable access and as a result, we opened The Center.

The Kid's Zone gives children a television free space to spend time while their Caregives looks for a job and/or a place to live at The Center.

The Center is located at our main office on Central Avenue (138). It is open from 8:30am to 7pm, Monday through Friday and in addition to internet access, we offer free access to a printer, copier, fax, and phone. The Center is staffed by two volunteers from Experience Works (EW). EW is a federally funded program for unemployed adult aged 55 and older. The EW program pays the volunteer the minimum wage for up to 18 hours per week.

Impact: On average, five adults per month find a job through The Center.

Backpack Weekend (BP) Food Program

The BP Program provides 372 low-income elementary and middle school children a backpack full of food every weekend in an effort to ensure that children don't go hungry on Saturday and Sunday. *By the end of January 2017, we expect to be serving 455 students.* The HATAS BP Program is the only backpack food program in the City of Albany. The goal of the BP program is to improve test scores, decrease absenteeism, and decrease the number of negative classroom incidents. Students that struggle with hunger when school is not in-session perform poorer on

tests, miss more days of school, and tend to be more disruptive in the classroom. The HATAS BP Program started with 14 backpacks February 2014 and our goal is to distributing 1,000 backpacks by the 2019/2020 academic year. Backpacks are \$239 per pack, per year. *Beginning March 1st, 2017 we anticipate pairing age appropriate book with each backpack. The Book Project is a new partnership currently being developed with Grassroot Givers.*

At 455 backpacks, the program currently requires \$108,745 in funding.

Impact: Children living in poverty receive free breakfast and lunch at school but go hungry over the weekend. The BP helps ensure that they come to school Monday full, and ready to learn. The program has proven to reduce absences and decrease negative classroom behavior.

Furniture Bank (FB)

The FB distributes, at no charge, gently used furniture to homeless households exiting a homeless shelter and in need of reestablishment items. Our most popular items are bed frames, dressers, kitchen tables, and lamps. The FB is located at 5 Anderson Drive Albany 12205.

The Furniture Bank is a partnership and our current partners are Unity House, St. Catherine's Center for Children and Catholic Charities. Each partner pays \$7,500 per year and partner agencies receive priority handling. 2.5 FTE are assigned to the FB and the projected 2017 budget is \$125,000.

Impact: homeless households are able to reestablish a home with donated furniture.

HATAS Structure

HATAS is governed by a Board of Directors and currently has twelve members. The BOD has four officers and the Executive Committee (EC) is composed of the four officers and a member at-large.

Terms are two years long and the board year begins on July 1st. The annual meeting takes place every June and the Board meets, on average, 10 times per year. The EC meets the first Friday of every month and as needed. Standing committees include Audit/Finance, Executive, Program, Nominating (Board), and Development.

HATAS is managed by an Executive Director (Liz Hitt). The ED is supported by a full-time Comptroller (Brian Shea) and a Deputy Director (Maria Grillo). As of 01/01/20107, HATAS employed 19 FTE and 1 per diem.

Fiscal: HATAS operates on a calendar year and audits take place every February. The final 990 is posted on the HATAS website under the About Tab. The agency maintains a \$250,000 line of credit however it has not been used since 2010.