

POLICY TITLE: Coordinated Entry COVID-19 Prioritization Policy

POLICY ADMINISTRATION: The Commission on Homelessness and Housing for Volusia Flagler / FL-504

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022

POLICY: In order to quickly house homeless individuals who have been identified as high-risk for developing serious and life-threatening health complications from COVID-19, Coordinated Entry will prioritize individuals with priority factors, as outlined below, for all housing openings.

CoC/ESG Programs must fill openings using its current Coordinated Entry System.

PROCEDURE:

- Outreach / referring Agencies and must notify Coordinated Entry staff at of clients with priority factors.
 - Third-party verification of priority factors is preferred, but self-certification will be accepted for clients who cannot obtain third-party.
- Coordinated Entry staff will maintain list of eligible clients
- Once the list of clients with priority factors has been identified, housing matches will be sent using the appropriate standing prioritization policy, based on which housing intervention has the available opening (RRH, PSH, TH, TH/RRH).
- Clients with multiple priority factors will be prioritized over fewer priority factors.

EXCEPTIONS:

- Chronically homeless clients with all required documentation will be prioritized first for PSH openings, followed by COVID-19 priority factors.
- Highest vulnerability score will be prioritized first for DV housing openings, followed by COVID-19 priority factors.

COVID-19 PRIORITY FACTORS:

- Pregnant or breastfeeding women
- Individuals ages 55+
- One of the following pre-existing health conditions:
 - **Chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma**
 - **Serious heart conditions** (expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration, and significantly inhibits ability of the individual to live independently)
 - **Conditions that can cause a person to be immunocompromised**, including cancer treatment, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications.
 - **Severe obesity** (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher)
 - **Diabetes**
 - **Chronic kidney disease and those who are undergoing dialysis**
 - **Liver disease**