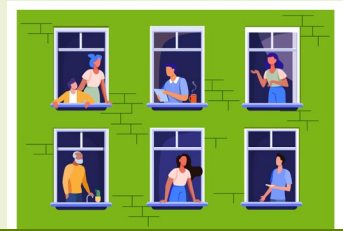


# Affordable Housing and Supportive Services Demonstration Program

Action Inc.



## About the Grant Recipient

Action Inc. is a community action agency (CAA) that provides residents of its affordable housing units in Gloucester, Massachusetts with supportive services, including job training, education, access to health care and health resources, and transportation to improve their overall well-being, quality of life, and long-term stability in housing. Action Inc. owns and operates three affordable housing sites that serve 19 households. All residents previously experienced homelessness, and many residents have at least one diagnosed disability.

## About the Award

Action Inc. has been awarded \$217,479 through the Affordable Housing and Supportive Services Demonstration (AHSSD) program, administered by the Office of Community Services (OCS). With this funding, Action Inc. will provide residents with individualized case management services to increase access to supportive services and to prepare them for long-term housing by:

- Hiring one full-time and one part-time housing case manager to supply increased access to supportive services related to adult care, health care, and financial and career services.
- Providing parental and caregiver support, including helping develop personalized parenting plans, conducting regular home visits, and partnering with community organizations for parental support services.
- Establishing a streamlined mental health, alcohol, and substance use disorder services referral process to facilities for residents as well as providing training to staff on mental health challenges and substance use disorder issues.

## About the Affordable Housing and Supportive Services Demonstration (AHSSD) Program

In fiscal year 2023, [OCS](#) within the [Administration for Children and Families](#) (ACF) at the U.S. [Department of Health and Human Services](#) launched AHSSD, a brand new demonstration program. OCS awarded nearly \$2.1 million to nine grant recipients — eight CAAs and the Chickasaw Nation — across the country to strengthen and enhance the wraparound supportive services available to residents living in affordable housing communities. This funding will provide supportive services to affordable housing residents in Alaska, Arizona, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Chickasaw Nation in Oklahoma, and Virginia. With this funding, grant recipients will increase their capacity to help families living in affordable housing access wraparound supportive services to improve their overall safety, stability, and economic mobility.

## Combining Affordable Housing with Supportive Services

Affordable housing provides a place to live for individuals and families with low incomes, but sometimes housing alone is not enough to help residents achieve safety, stability, and economic mobility.

Barriers to housing stability include, but are not limited to, having a low income, mental and physical health challenges, limited education, and limited English proficiency.

Combining supportive services with affordable housing has been shown to be an effective strategy for helping vulnerable populations maintain a stable home, while moving toward economic mobility and self-sufficiency.