

# GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

## COLLABORATIVE DISABILITY DETERMINATION UNIT (CDDU)

### What is the General Assistance program?

The General Assistance (GA) Program is a program designed to help individuals with severe disabilities who are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness. The program is based on the Housing First model, and is administered by DHS's Aging and People with Disabilities' **Collaborative Disability Determination Unit (CDDU)**.

(Direct Services are provided by local CDDU **Disability Benefits Liaisons (DBL)**)

### To be eligible for the GA Program, you must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be homeless or at risk of homelessness (see OAR 461-135-0700(1));
- Be an adult, age 18-64, with no minor children living with you;
- Have a severe disability that meets Social Security disability criteria;
- Be receiving Presumptive Medicaid medical assistance;
- Meet all eligibility criteria for Supplemental Security Income (SSI);
- Apply for SSI and appeal any denials you receive;
- Sign an Interim Assistance Agreement (IAR), allowing DHS to recover GA funds paid to you once you are awarded SSA benefits.

### GA Program Benefits:

- **For Individuals:** Benefits may include up to \$545 per month in housing assistance, \$90 in utility assistance per month, and \$60 in cash assistance per month.
- **For Couples:** Benefits may include up to \$818 per month in housing assistance, \$139 in utility assistance per month, and \$93 in cash assistance per month.
- Consumers will be offered free help with the Social Security application and appeals process. Consumers are also able to obtain outside representation.

### How are consumers referred to the General Assistance Program?

- Local DHS/APD/AAA Offices and Community Partners can submit General Assistance referrals via our [DBL.Referral@dhsosha.state.or.us](mailto:DBL.Referral@dhsosha.state.or.us) email box, or by calling one of our GA program managers:  
**Brian Kirk #503-373-0271 and Marcy Mee #503-373-0775**
- General questions can be directed to our 1-800 number: 1-866-535-8431.