

The Independent Living Initiative Program (ILI) is a short-term and one-time assistance program for adult consumers of The Durham Center. It is intended for individuals who are behind on their rent facing possible eviction and/or utility payments or need start up funds to move into permanent housing due to a short term life circumstance. All applicants must be able to demonstrate an ability to pay their rent and/or utilities after initial assistance has been given. These funds are only for applicants who, "if not for these funds will become homeless." If the person has assets or other financial supports-such as help from friends or family-he/she may be ineligible for the Independent Living Initiative Funds. In order to qualify for the program applicants must be imminently homeless or precariously housed. This program is also designed to house individuals in need of initial move in costs (security deposit, utility deposit, etc) required by potential landlords. The Independent Living Initiative Program is not an immediate financial assistance program. If a person's application is approved, it may take one or more weeks to receive assistance.

Eligibility Requirements

All applicants for the Independent Living Initiative Program will be screened for the following factors:

- **DISABILING CONDITION:**
 - Individual must be an adult consumer of The Durham Center with Severe and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI), Severe Mental Illness (SMI), a developmental disability and/or a substance abuse diagnosis who is homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless
- **INCOME:**
 - Individuals/families with incomes at or below 30% of Area Median Income will receive financial assistance
- **TRIGGER CRISIS:**
 - An event has occurred which is expected to result in housing and/or utility loss within 30 days or less
- **NO RESOURCES OR VIABLE PLAN TO RESOLVE CRISIS:**
 - No other options are possible for resolving the crisis but for this assistance the family/individual would become or remain literally homeless---- staying in a shelter, car, or place not meant for human habitation
- **REASONABLE EXPECTATION FOR SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION:**
 - At the initial assessment for assistance, there is a reasonable expectation that the crisis can be resolved and existing housing or relocation to housing can be sustained by the individual/family after services and assistance are ended
- **RISK/BARRIER SCORE : (Please complete Risk/Barrier Checklist)**
 - Risk/Barriers that have a predicative value in determining housing needs/assistance (ex. income, homelessness, eviction history, institutional history, criminal history, etc)

Application Process

IMPORTANT: An application packet for the Independent Living Initiative Program is located at http://www.durhamcenter.org/index.php/provider/docs/housing_docs. You can complete the application on your computer, print it out when finished, sign where required, attach appropriate supplemental documentation, and submit these materials by fax (919) 328-6008 to be received at The Durham Center by noon on the Monday preceding Housing Triage.

Effective July 1, 2011 all previous versions of the Independent Living Initiative applications/forms will not be accepted. This application must be completed in its entirety. Due to the large demand for assistance and the limited amount of funding, incomplete applications will not be processed. The Housing Triage Team reviews assistance requests submitted by The Durham Center Housing Specialist every 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 12:30pm for approval or disapproval. The Housing Specialist will notify each applicant's QP by email of the Team's decision by the close of business the Wednesday following Housing Triage.