

Virginia's Alternative Housing and Incentive (AHIP) Program

Laura R. Young, MPH, CIC

Background

AHIP is administered through VDH's state TB Program with the goal of protecting the public by financially assisting clients who would be at risk for non-adherence to their TB treatment plan.

Criteria

To qualify for assistance, TB clients must:

- Have presumptive or confirmed active TB
- Not be able to work due to isolation related to TB diagnosis to receive housing assistance
- Be under medical management by VDH, even if in collaboration with a private physician
- Agree to DOT and sign the DOT agreement
- Demonstrate financial need for assistance

Types of assistance

- Food
 - Up to \$150/month
 - Must meet one of the following:
 - Under isolation
 - Need groceries for nutritional supplement while recovering
 - Lost employment or income sources due to illness
 - Able to pay for housing instead of food
 - Lack of access to any food resources
 - Check made out to nurse case manager or designee; client must sign and date receipts



Types of assistance

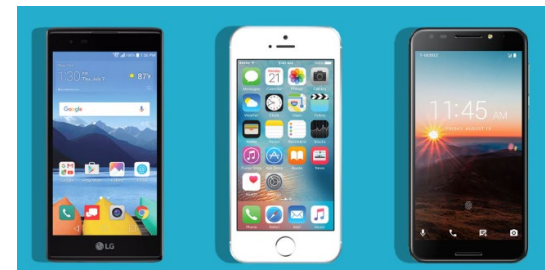


● Housing

- Funds for hotel/motel room or funds to assist with current rent/mortgage payment
 - Criteria for hotel placement::
 - Experiencing homelessness
 - Health department requests relocation of client from home due to living situation
 - Health department request relocation of client from home de to household with high-risk occupants
 - Process
 - Hotel must meet minimum housing standards
 - Hotel must complete a W-9 form prior to payment processing
- Fund for current residence
 - Check is made out to nurse case manager, not directly to the client

● Phone assistance

- Purchase of prepaid smartphone for VET purposes
 - \$100 for first month and \$50 for subsequent months
 - Client keeps smartphone upon completion of treatment



Types of assistance



- **Transportation**
 - Transportation assistance via Lyft with up to four rides per month for clinic visits
 - Rides are scheduled through the Lyft platform by the nurse case manager
- **Gift Cards**
 - Primarily for use as incentives to encourage compliance with treatment for TB or TB infection
 - Purchase small gifts to encourage children on treatment, etc.
 - Gift cards distributed in \$10 increments and use is logged
- **Special Assistance**
 - Insurance related drug copayments
 - Other unique scenarios

Approval Process

- Requests for assistance are made by the client's nurse case manager either directly by phone in emergencies or via a REDCap survey.
- Requests are reviewed by one of the two nurse consultants and assistance is initiated if approved.



About

How Do I

A-Z Index

Locations

Data

Clinicians

Newsroom

Contact

Tuberculosis

Community Engagement

Data & Reports

Education

Forms for Local Health Departments

Humanitarian Parolee Programs

Special Populations

TUBERCULOSIS

The mission of the Tuberculosis (TB) Program is to control, prevent, and eventually eliminate TB from the Commonwealth of Virginia. The program aims to detect every case of TB in Virginia, assure that every case is adequately and completely treated, and prevent transmission of TB in communities.

VDH TB Central Resource Hub

Report Latent Tuberculosis Infection (LTBI)

VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



Please select your affiliation and what you would like to do from the drop down below. You will then be prompted to click a link to take you to the appropriate form.

Please do not click the check mark at the bottom of this screen.

Please choose your affiliation:

* must provide value

☒ Health Department

☐ Non-Health Department

reset

What would you like to do?

* must provide value

Submit an Alternative Housing and Incentive Program (AHIP) Request Form

[Click here to submit an Alternative Housing and Incentive Program \(AHIP\) Request Form.](#)

AAA

This form should be completed by the Nurse Case Manager or designee. **Note, submitting this form does not guarantee assistance will be provided.**

☐ Yes

* must provide value

* must provide value

* must provide value

- ☐ Diagnosis of presumptive or confirmed TB
- ☐ Requires isolation (Required for housing assistance)
- ☐ VDH supervising or consulting on medical management
- ☐ Signed Directly Observed Therapy Agreement and compliant with DOT
- ☐ Client at risk for unstable or unsafe housing
- ☐ Demonstrates financial need

* must provide value

* must provide value

* must provide value

* must provide value

* must provide value

reset

reset

reset

reset

reset

- * must provide value

Expand

- * must provide value

- * must provide value

* must provide value

Submit

Alternative Housing and Incentive Program Request Form

PID 1712

Record Status Dashboard (all records)

Displayed below is a table listing all existing records/responses and their status for every data collection instrument (and if longitudinal, for every event). You may click any of the colored buttons in the table to open a new tab/window in your browser to view that record on that particular data collection instrument. Please note that if your form-level user privileges are restricted for certain data collection instruments, you will only be able to view those instruments, and if you belong to a Data Access Group, you will only be able to view records that belong to your group.

Legend for status icons:

- Incomplete
- Unverified
- Complete
- Many statuses (mixed)
- Incomplete
- Partial
- Complete
- Many statuses (mixed)

Dashboard displayed: [Default dashboard]

[Create custom dashboard](#)

Displaying record Page 4 of 4: "301" through "339" of **339** records

100 records per page

[+ Add new record](#)

Displaying: [Instrument status only](#) | [Lock status only](#) | [All status types](#)

Record ID	Alternative Housing and Incentive Program Request Form	AHIP Admin
301	✔ + ●	●
302	✔ + ●	●
303	✔ + ●	●
304	✔ + ●	●
305	✔ + ●	●
306	✔ + ●	●
307	✔ + ●	●
308	✔ + ●	●
309	✔ + ●	●
310	✔ + ●	●
311	✔ + ●	●
312	✔ + ●	●
313	✔ + ●	●
314	✔ + ●	●
315	✔ + ●	●

AHIP Admin

[Editing existing Record ID 339.](#)

Record ID	339
Approver Name	Adwoa Sam
Date	09-14-2023 Today M-D-Y
Approval Actions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Letter Sent to Health Brigade <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Client entered on spreadsheet
Housing Amount Approved	\$2218.02
Food Amount Approved	0
Special Assistance Amount Approved	0
Drug Co-Pay Assistance Approved Amount	0
Transportation Authorization Code	N/A
Comments	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px;"></div>
Form Status	
Complete?	Complete

Use and Funding

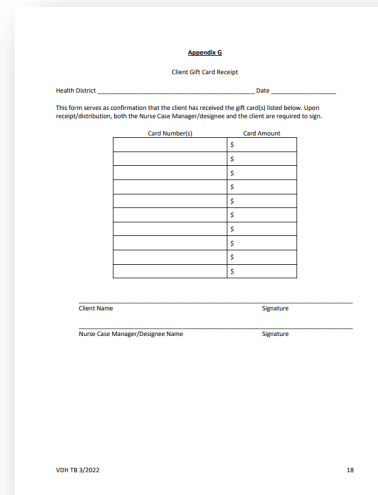
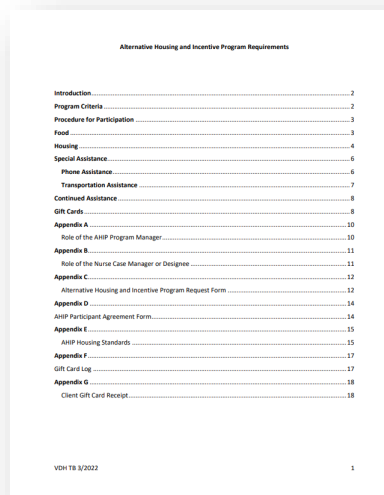
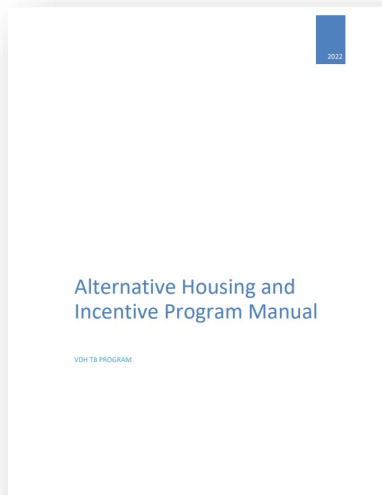
- In 2022
 - 31 clients received \$46,690.19
 - 18.5% food assistance
 - 81.5% in housing assistance
- First 6 months of 2023
 - 26 clients received \$22,140.53
 - Food, housing, phone assistance
- Budget for this program through COAG funding
 - \$77,487 for assistance funds
 - \$7,748 for service fees paid to Health Brigade of Richmond, an FQHC, which provides fiduciary services for the program
 - Typical annual program costs are \$60-90k
- Drug copay costs come out of general funds, not grant funds

Challenges and Successes

- Hugely helpful for clients and case management team
- Ability to adapt and expand program as needs are identified (i.e., transportation)
- Supplements locally available resources such as food banks
- Cumbersome process for issuing checks
- Challenges with obtaining agreements and documents from hotels and landlords
- Still gaps in addressing housing needs for clients also experiencing mental health crisis

Resources

- [Alternative Housing Incentive Program Manual](#)
 - Outlines assistance types, criteria, process, and includes appendices on items like housing standards, participant forms, gift card logs, etc.



Questions?

laura.r.young@vdh.virginia.gov