



# Voucher Programs for Special Populations

Rental subsidy and supportive services for veterans, households experiencing homelessness and people with disabilities

## HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Program

The Grand Rapids Housing Commission (GRHC) administers 36 vouchers through the HUD-VASH program; the program serves veterans experiencing homelessness and veterans at risk for homelessness, combining rental assistance from the United States Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) with case management and clinical services provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

The GRHC receives veteran referrals through the Grand Rapids Vet Center operated by the VA. GRHC Housing Choice Voucher program staff work with the Vet Center as well as local social services agencies to help the veterans served through the HUD-VASH program access needed housing and community resources.

## Emergency Housing Voucher Program

The GRHC administers 42 Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHVs) awarded through the American Rescue Plan Act. EHVs provide a tenant-based rental subsidy to assist individuals and families who are:

- Experiencing homelessness
- At risk of experiencing homelessness
- Recently experienced homelessness or have a high risk of housing instability
- Fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking

The GRHC works with the Kent County Continuum of Care to lease up these vouchers. For more information about the EHV application process, please contact The Salvation Army at 2-1-1 or visit <https://centralusa.salvationarmy.org/kentcounty/provide-housing/>

## HUD Mainstream Voucher Program

The GRHC administers 207 Mainstream Vouchers that offer a rental subsidy to support the housing needs of non-elderly persons with disabilities; HUD defines “non-elderly” as under age 62. The program is particularly targeted to disabled persons who are transitioning out of institutional settings, at serious risk of institutionalization, homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, and our Section 8 Administrative Plan includes a preference for this population.

In addition to a rental housing subsidy, the Mainstream program provides supportive services coordinated by GRHC social work professionals in collaboration with The Salvation Army, Disability Advocates, the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan, Cherry Health, Care Resources, local hospitals and nursing homes, and other community partner organizations that serve people who have disabilities. These services are designed to promote independence and dignity and may include home modifications, case management, counseling services, chore workers, legal help, medication management, meal delivery, medical equipment and supplies, transportation, fall prevention services and emergency response services

The GRHC pulls potentially eligible non-elderly applicants with disabilities from the households currently on the waiting list for our Housing Choice Voucher program.

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For more information about GRHC programs:

[www.grhousing.org](http://www.grhousing.org)



**GRAND RAPIDS  
HOUSING COMMISSION**

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