



# Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County

April 8, 2021  
Meeting Agenda

**Welcome and Housekeeping:** Dina called the meeting to order at 1:35pm. She reminded folks to sign into the chat and that the meeting will be recorded to assist with the meeting minutes.

*Since the Housing & Homeless Coalition welcomes ideas, opinions, and knowledge from a broad spectrum of partners, meetings are open to the public and new members are always welcomed. Meetings take place the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month at 1:30 pm on Zoom until further notice. The meetings are recorded to help prepare the meeting minutes but will not be shared or posted.*

**Review of March Meeting Minutes:** No issues were reported.

*Archived Coalition Meeting Minutes are available at [www.bccan.org](http://www.bccan.org) and [www.bchmis.info](http://www.bchmis.info)*

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## 1. OPEN DISCUSSION

**Amy Frank** (Harmony House) noted that the bed availability chart should reflect 2 openings.

**Rebecca Salopak** (Housing Authority) reported that tomorrow is her last day in her current position at the Housing Authority as she is retiring. She stated that she will start a new position with the Housing Authority working with students from the Beaver Falls School District. She introduced Darryl Spencer who will be assuming her current position at the Housing Authority. Dina welcomed Darryl. And she applauded Rebecca's many years of service to our homeless and unstably housed neighbors. She noted that she is glad to hear that Rebecca will still be working in social services in a new role.

**Cyndi Gilkey** (Neighborhood Legal Services) reminded the group that the eviction moratorium is scheduled to end at the end of June. She noted that the moratorium only applies to non-payment of rent. She reported that she has seen some landlords use the end of lease terms to justify not renewing leases. Herta asked what supports are available to help landlords. Dina noted that the ERAP program is designed to benefit both landlords and tenants. She stated that she will report on ERAP in more detail later in the meeting.

**Norah Miller** (Crossroads) announced that after not receiving the contract for the Men's Emergency Shelter, the Crossroads Board has decided to dissolve the organization. She acknowledged several of the Board members who worked on this difficult decision who attend this meeting: Rebecca Salopak, Darcy Casey, Lisa Kessler, and their dedicated staff member Raeann Grivna. She stated that the Board recalled its long-time mission of providing shelter to homeless men. In fact, in their last operating year, she reported that they sheltered 173 men over more than 7,000 nights. She described that when the previous shelter closed, they shifted gears to fill gaps by helping folks who do not meet the federal definition for homelessness. She noted that those efforts were meant to be temporary. Without the shelter they decided that they would dissolve. She stated that she expects the process to take until June. She reported that they would continue to render assistance through funding, outreach, case management, and gift

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cards until that point. In fact, she pointed out in the last 6 weeks that they rendered \$1,500 in hotel assistance (assisting 3 individuals), outreach, case management, and gift cards. However, they will be closing their office and shutting off their phone soon. For assistance reach out directly to her or any other board members. Finally, she reported that they will hold a prayer service in June to remember the 16 years of dedicated service that Crossroads provided to Beaver County. Dina acknowledged how difficult this decision must have been to make and to delivery today. She stated that their continued service even after making this decision clearly demonstrates Crossroad's dedication.

### 2. AGENDA

#### **Zero Suicide (BCBH)**

**Elisia Majors**

Elisia explained this cross sector task force's efforts to raise awareness around suicide and the resources available to help. The Zero Suicide framework is a system-wide organizational commitment toward safer suicide care in health and behavioral health systems. She noted that there is a tool kit with 7 different elements to help guide a system to transform suicide care including training, increased awareness, and educational materials. She noted that BCBH's System of Care webpage has a number of trainings available including: Mental Health First Aid, QPR, Talk Saves Lives, and Suicide Prevention in the Workplace. She also noted that the Kevin Hines video (a survivor's story) is available for showing too. Sister Sara asked if trainings are online or in person and Elisia clarified that can do either (with social distancing in place for on site trainings). This group has also put together 4x6 resource cards and handed out over 20,000. Let her know if you would like some for your agency. Finally she reported that yard signs to raise awareness will be available in May. Let her know if you'd like some. She noted that the Zero Suicide task force meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of every month at 1:30 pm. Elisia can be contacted at: 724.847.6229. The website is: Beaver County System of Care and can be found at: <http://www.bc-systemofcare.org>

#### **Vaccine Education & Rollout**

**Dina Ciabattoni**

Dina announced that the 1B group is now eligible to receive the Covid-19 vaccine. 1B includes people who are homeless and homeless services direct care staff. She encouraged folks who want the vaccine to sign up noting Heritage Valley seems to receive the largest supply. And she provided this website for tracking other local locations that have vaccines and are offering appointments: <https://vaccinefinder.org/> She spoke of a promising practice where communities identify a vaccine ambassador to be available to speak with and support folks who are vaccine hesitant. She encouraged agencies to identify such a person at their agencies to be available to your clients for vaccine questions and support. She also shared that the State has set aside 20,000 Johnson & Johnson vaccines for people residing in emergency shelters. She is attempting to coordinate with a healthcare provider to assist with the distribution. She noted that she already gathered a group of direct care providers to start sketching out what this distribution could look like. She stated that they are estimating that Beaver County will likely receive about 100 vaccines and that using a mobile model would probably be most effective for this population. The group would like to do three small clinics throughout the community at: TCBC, The Women's Center, and a location to be determined in Ambridge. She further explained

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the vaccines are for those people in shelters, but if there are left over vaccines, we would like to offer it to unsheltered people, and those who are living in other congregate settings. At this point, she just needs to connect with a health care provider. Branden Dudek from Central Outreach said he would speak with his agency about possibly assisting. **UPDATE:** Central Outreach Wellness has agreed to assist with vaccine distribution to our homeless clients in shelter settings. However, the J&J vaccine is currently on hold so the planning committee is regrouping at this time. Updates will be coming as they develop.

### **UPDATES: Men's Shelter; ERAP**

**Dina Ciabattoni**

Dina asked Ashley McLaughlin from TCBC to give us an update on the Men's Emergency Shelter. Ashley thanked Norah and the Crossroads board for their many years of service and for paving the way for homeless services in the County. She went on to explain that the inspections and appraisals are complete and they are looking to close on the building in June but possibly in May. She reported that they hired Chris Anderson as the Shelter Manager. Chris will start in the position in May and will play a role in the development of the program including set-up, creating policies and procedures etc.

Dina then provided details on the Emergency Rental Assistance Program. She reminded the group that households with incomes at or below 80% AMI are eligible for rental arrears and assistance as well as utility arrears. Households can apply on COMPASS or by submitting a paper application to the Franklin Center. The dedicated line for ERAP at the Franklin Center 724.709.1773.

### **Bed Availability**

**Dina Ciabattoni**

Dina had emailed the bed availability chart to the group prior to the meeting. She did note some changes on it since then. Those changes are indicated in red. She highlighted slight increases for PSH and TH. And noted that RRH seems to increase which she speculated may be due to households who were originally holding on through the pandemic now facing a housing crisis.



# Housing and Homeless Coalition of Beaver County

**NEXT MEETING: May 13, 2021**

## **SAVE THE DATES**

**4/13/21 BVIU Spring Summit on Diversity: Bridging the Divide** from 8:30 am – 2 pm. Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bviu-spring-summit-on-diversity-bridging-the-divide-tickets-139471612347>

**TRAININGS AVAILABLE!!** On Motivational Interviewing; Cultural Competency & Social Services; and The Culture of Poverty. VISIT <http://www.bc-systemofcare.org/training/>

**4/22/21 What's the Big Deal About Trauma** from 2:30-4 pm Register here: <http://bit.ly/2Y78c5T>

**5/11/21 Juvenile Crime Training** from 9 -11 am. Register here: [https://bccan.org/training\\_bccan/juvenile-crime-training-may-11-2021-via-zoom-register-today/](https://bccan.org/training_bccan/juvenile-crime-training-may-11-2021-via-zoom-register-today/)

**Online PA Tax Hub** for personal income tax and Rent Rebate filings: [https://mypath.pa.gov/ /](https://mypath.pa.gov/)

**Information on NA meetings** throughout the county (both in person and online), visit: [beavervalleyna.org](http://beavervalleyna.org)

**FYI – The PA Dept. of Drug & Alcohol Program has established a 24 hour, 7 days/week hotline** for those seeking D&A treatment services. The phone number is 1.800.662.4357.

The April 8, 2021 Housing & Homeless Coalition Meeting was held on Zoom due to social distancing guidelines. Below is a list of attendees who were visibly in attendance on the Zoom meeting and/or who signed into the Zoom chat.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Matt Stahoviak	BCBH
David Simons	ABC
Michelle Medlin	Lifesteps Early Head Start
Angela Melton	Neighborhood Legal Services
Teresa Lukes	BC Blind Association
Barb Reed	OARS
Penny Jones	Landlord partner
Jaime Hinkle	Beacon Health Options
Amy Frederick	CYS
Denise DiVittis	Beaver County DRS
Erin Rathbun	Beacon Health Options
Vicki Zanotti	Allies for Health & Wellbeing
Harry Angelo	Job Training
Norah Miller	Crossroads

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Pastor Raeanne Barlow	3 <sup>rd</sup> Step Church
Carrie Miller	PA Cyber
Kate Willette	Children's Institute
Rebecca Salopek	Housing Authority/Crossroads
Natalie Meade	Head Start/Early Head Start
Ashley McLaughlin	The Cornerstone of Beaver County
Elisia Majors	BCBH
Cyndi Gilkey	Neighborhood Legal Services
Dianne Funkhouser	CareerLink
Paul Lebanik	St. Vincent DePaul
Wendy Beeching	Neighborhood Legal Services
Jan Davis	TRAILS
Lori Gaghan	Staunton Clinic
Heather Slaughter	Self-Determination Housing/Inglis
Melissa Grimes	CARL Program – Housing Authority
Herta Maddar	BCBH
Mandy Baker	Hope House
Erin Brand	Salvation Army – Friendship Homes
Marcy Scott	CRS
George Beegle	HMIS
Darcy Casey	Housing Authority/Crossroads
Felicia Alexander	PA Health & Wellness
Sylvia Jenkins	WCBC
Joanne Koehler	MHA
Lynn Bailey	Salvation Army/Harmony House
Sister Sara Crotty	Sisters of St. Joseph
Monique Anderson	Lighthouse/Harmony House
Maria Townsend	BCBH
Dina Ciabattoni	CoC Coordinator
Amy Frank	Harmony House
Darrelly Spencer	Housing Authority
Rich Pirozzi	Pittsburgh VA HUD-VASH
Sabine Kane	BCRC
John Bryant	Beaver Falls Street Pastor
Sylenthia Siebenlist	The Children's Institute
Angela Pope	KEYS/CCBC
Branden Dudek	Central Outreach Wellness Center
Ondrea Burton	Congressman Lamb's Office

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## COVID-19

# Myths and Facts about COVID-19 Vaccines

Updated Mar. 11, 2021

[Print](#)

Now that there are authorized and recommended COVID-19 vaccines in the United States, accurate vaccine information is critical.

**How do I know which sources of COVID-19 vaccine information are accurate?**

It can be difficult to know which sources of information you can trust. Learn more about [finding credible vaccine information](#).

## Can a COVID-19 vaccine make me sick with COVID-19?

**No.** None of the authorized and recommended [COVID-19 vaccines](#) or [COVID-19 vaccines currently in development in the United States](#) contain the live virus that causes COVID-19. This means that a COVID-19 vaccine **cannot** make you sick with COVID-19.

There are several different types of vaccines in development. All of them teach our immune systems how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19. Sometimes this process can cause symptoms, such as fever. These symptoms are normal and are a sign that the body is building protection against the virus that causes COVID-19. Learn more about [how COVID-19 vaccines work](#).

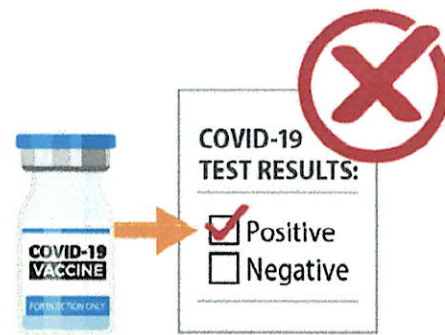


It typically takes a few weeks for the body to build immunity (protection against the virus that causes COVID-19) after vaccination. That means it's possible a person could be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 just before or just after vaccination and still get sick. This is because the vaccine has not had enough time to provide protection.

## After getting a COVID-19 vaccine, will I test positive for COVID-19 on a viral test?

**No.** Neither the recently authorized and recommended vaccines nor the other COVID-19 vaccines currently in clinical trials in the United States can cause you to test positive on [viral tests](#), which are used to see if you have a **current infection**.

If your body develops an immune response—the goal of vaccination—there is a possibility you may test positive on some [antibody tests](#). Antibody tests indicate you had a **previous infection** and that you may have some level of protection against the virus. Experts are currently looking at how COVID-19 vaccination may affect antibody testing results.

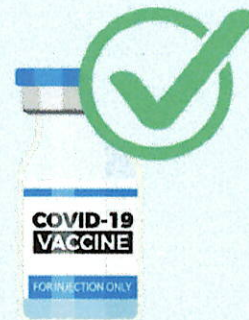


## If I have already had COVID-19 and recovered, do I still need to get vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine?

Yes, you should be vaccinated regardless of whether you already had COVID-19. That's because experts do not yet know how long you are protected from getting sick again after recovering from COVID-19. Even if you have already recovered from COVID-19, it is possible—although rare—that you could be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 again. Learn more about [why getting vaccinated is a safer way to build protection](#) than getting infected.

If you were treated for COVID-19 with monoclonal antibodies or convalescent plasma, you should wait 90 days before getting a COVID-19 vaccine. Talk to your doctor if you are unsure what treatments you received or if you have more questions about getting a COVID-19 vaccine.

Experts are still learning more about how long vaccines protect against COVID-19 in real-world conditions. CDC will keep the public informed as new evidence becomes available.



## Will a COVID-19 vaccination protect me from getting sick with COVID-19?

Yes. COVID-19 vaccination works by teaching your immune system how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19, and this protects you from getting sick with COVID-19.

Being protected from getting sick is important because even though many people with COVID-19 have only a mild illness, others may get a [severe illness](#), have [long-term health effects](#), or even die. There is no way to know how COVID-19 will affect you, even if you don't have an [increased risk of developing severe complications](#). Learn more about [how COVID-19 vaccines work](#).



## Will a COVID-19 vaccine alter my DNA?

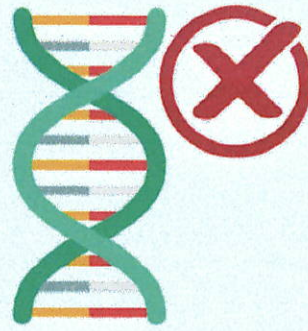
No. COVID-19 vaccines do not change or interact with your DNA in any way.

There are currently two types of COVID-19 vaccines that have been authorized for use in the United States: messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccines and viral vector vaccines.

The Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines are mRNA vaccines, which teach our cells how to make a protein that triggers an immune response. The mRNA from a COVID-19 vaccine never enters the nucleus of the cell, which is where our DNA is kept. This means the mRNA cannot affect or interact with our DNA in any way. Instead, COVID-19 mRNA vaccines work with the body's natural defenses to safely develop immunity to disease. Learn more about [how COVID-19 mRNA vaccines](#)

**WORK.**

Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccine is a viral vector vaccine. Viral vector vaccines use a modified version of a different, harmless virus (the vector) to deliver important instructions to our cells to start building protection. The instructions are delivered in the form of genetic material. This material does not integrate into a person's DNA. These instructions tell the cell to produce a **harmless** piece of virus that causes COVID-19. This is a spike protein and is only found on the surface of the virus that causes COVID-19. This triggers our immune system to recognize the virus that causes COVID-19 and to begin producing antibodies and activating other immune cells to fight off what it thinks is an infection. Learn more about [how viral vector vaccines work](#).



At the end of the process, our bodies have learned how to protect against future infection from COVID-19. That immune response and the antibodies that our bodies make protect us from getting infected if the real virus enters our bodies.

## Is it safe for me to get a COVID-19 vaccine if I would like to have a baby one day?

**Yes.** If you are trying to become pregnant now or want to get pregnant in the future, you may receive a COVID-19 vaccine when one is available to you.

There is currently no evidence that COVID-19 vaccination causes any problems with pregnancy, including the development of the placenta. In addition, there is no evidence that fertility problems are a side effect of any vaccine, including COVID-19 vaccines.

Like all vaccines, scientists are studying COVID-19 vaccines carefully for side effects now and will continue to study them for many years.

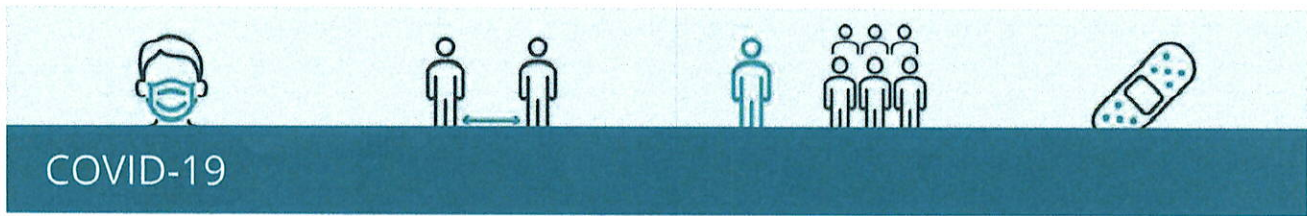


### Related Pages

- › [Frequently Asked Questions about Vaccination](#)
- › [Key Things to Know About COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

Last Updated Mar. 11, 2021





COVID-19

## Possible Side Effects After Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine

Updated Mar. 16, 2021

[Print](#)

COVID-19 vaccination will help protect you from getting COVID-19. You may have some side effects, which are normal signs that your body is building protection. These side effects may affect your ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days. Some people have no side effects.

### Common side effects

#### On the arm where you got the shot:



- Pain
- Redness
- Swelling

#### Throughout the rest of your body:



- Tiredness
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Chills
- Fever
- Nausea

### Helpful tips

Talk to your doctor about taking over-the-counter medicine, such as ibuprofen, acetaminophen, aspirin, or antihistamines, for any pain and discomfort you may experience after getting vaccinated. You can take these medications to relieve post-vaccination side effects if you have no other medical reasons that prevent you from taking these medications normally.

It is **not recommended** you take these medicines before vaccination for the purpose of trying to prevent side effects.

#### To reduce pain and discomfort where you got the shot



- Apply a clean, cool, wet washcloth over the area.
- Use or exercise your arm.

#### To reduce discomfort from fever



- Drink plenty of fluids.
- Dress lightly.

### If you received a second shot

Side effects after your second shot may be more intense than the ones you experienced after your first shot. These side effects are normal signs that your body is building protection and should go away within a few days.

## When to call the doctor

In most cases, discomfort from pain or fever is a normal sign that your body is building protection. Contact your doctor or healthcare provider:

- If the redness or tenderness where you got the shot gets worse after 24 hours
- If your side effects are worrying you or do not seem to be going away after a few days

If you get a COVID-19 vaccine and you think you might be having a severe allergic reaction after leaving the vaccination site, seek immediate medical care by calling 911. Learn more about [COVID-19 vaccines and rare severe allergic reactions](#).

## Remember

- Side effects can affect your ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days.
- The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine and Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine both need 2 shots in order to get the most protection. You should get the second shot even if you have side effects after the first shot, unless a vaccination provider or your doctor tells you [not to get it](#).
- You only need 1 shot of the Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen (J&J/Janssen) COVID-19 Vaccine to get the most protection. Learn more about [the different COVID-19 vaccines](#).
- It takes time for your body to [build protection after any vaccination](#). People are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after their second shot of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, or two weeks after the single-dose J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine. You should keep using all the tools available to [protect yourself and others](#) until you are fully vaccinated.
- After you are fully vaccinated for COVID-19, you may be able to start doing some things that you had stopped doing because of the pandemic. Learn more about what you can do [when you have been fully vaccinated](#).
- We are still learning how vaccines will affect the spread of COVID-19. After you’ve been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, you should keep [taking precautions](#) in public places like wearing a mask, staying 6 feet apart from others, avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces, and washing your hands often. CDC will continue to update recommendations as we know more.

### Printable Handout for Vaccine Recipient

**What to Expect after Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine**

COVID-19 vaccination will help protect you from getting COVID-19. You may have some side effects, which are normal signs that your body is building protection. These side effects may affect your ability to do daily activities, but they should go away within a few days. Some people have an allergic reaction.

**Common side effects**

On the day when you get the shot	The couple of days after
• Pain	• Fatigue
• Redness	• Headache
• Swelling	• Fever
	• Muscle aches
	• Rash

**Helpful tips**

- If you have a sore at the injection site, use a clean cloth to gently rub the area with a clean cloth.
- To reduce pain and discomfort, use a cool compress or an over-the-counter pain reliever.
- Get plenty of rest and eat healthy foods.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Take a walk.

**When to call the doctor**

- If you have a severe allergic reaction, such as difficulty breathing, hives, or swelling of the face or throat.
- If you have a severe headache, dizziness, or fainting.
- If you have a severe rash or skin irritation that is spreading or getting worse.

**Ask your vaccination provider about getting started with a safe**

Use your vaccination to help protect you and others. You should keep using all the tools available to protect yourself and others until you are fully vaccinated.

### What to Expect after Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine PDF Fact Sheet for Healthcare Providers to Give after Vaccination

- English [199 KB, 1 page]
- Español [158 KB, 1 página]
- Available in multiple other languages

### More Information

[Ensuring COVID-19 vaccine safety in the United States](#)

Current Beaver County Housing Inventory Availability

April 2021

Housing Program	Type	Availability	Units/Beds	Occupancy	Administrator
Crescent Commons*	Permanent	5	24	79%	Housing Authority
Friendship Homes*	Permanent	0	33	100%	Salvation Army
BC On-Call	Emergency	0	2	100%	The Cornerstone
Community Residential*	Permanent	5	41	88%	Housing Authority
Stone Harbour*	Transitional	1	12	92%	CRS
CRS Transitional	Transitional	0	15	100%	CRS
Help House	Transitional	0	11	100%	Housing Authority
Harmony House	Transitional	0	4	100%	BCCYS/SA
BCCYS Housing	Emergency	11	14	21%	BCCYS
Women's Center	Emergency	0	24	100%	BC Women's Center
Women's Center	Transitional	0	10	100%	BC Women's Center
SA Rapid Rehousing *	Permanent	0	N/A	N/A	Salvation Army
Safely Home*	Permanent	5	16	69%	Housing Authority
Lighthouse	Transitional	1	3	67%	BCCYS/SA

\*McKinney Vento Supportive Housing Programs - See reverse side of chart for HUDs disability & homeless eligibility requirements.

Subsized or Section 8	Location	Bedroom Types	Wait List Details
Brightwood Manor	New Brighton	4- 2BRs; 1-3BR	Taking applications
Beaver Falls Plaza	Beaver Falls	Full	Taking applications.
Scottswood Apts	Hopewell	1BR elderly/disabled	Taking Applications
Valley Terrace	Aliquippa	1 eff. And 2-3BRs	Taking Applications
ValleyView	New Brighton	1-1BR; 5-2BR; 0 - 3BR	Taking Applications
Spring Run	Monaca	Full	1BR: 22 applicants; <b>2BR: 0 apps</b> ; 3BR: 3 apps
Towne Tower	Aliquippa	6 - one bedrooms	1BR: 2yrs; 2BR: very short; 3BRs: 18-24 mos
Pinney Street Manor	Rochester	Sr. 1 BR	Building an accessible waitlist. Income cap 1 person: \$26,600; 2 people: \$30,400

**Housing Authority**

Ambridge Towers	Ambridge	many vacancies	Must be 45 yrs+ or permanently disabled
Corak Towers	Midland	vacancies	Fair market ren
Eleanor Roosevelt	Aliquippa	many vacancies	Must be 45 yrs+ or permanently disabled
Midcrest	Midland	vacancies	Family
Sheffield Towers	Aliquippa	vacancies	

\*Applications accepted for all HACB sites.

811 Program	Koppel/Roch.	No vacancies	*See back for more information
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**Coordinated Entry Waitlists**

( ) indicates last month's count

**PSH: 9 (7)**

**TH: 6 (7)**

**RRH: 29 (24)** Includes all RRH prgms

**The Housing Authority's main office remains closed. Walk-up and high rise units are now being rented and HCVs are being issued.**