



# Foundational Community Supports



(FCS)





# Questions

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- ▶ Who's heard of Foundational Community Supports (FCS)?
- ▶ Who is providing/receiving FCS?





# Agenda

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## ▶ Foundational Community Supports (FCS) overview

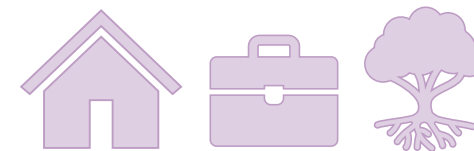
- ▶ Background
- ▶ Evidence-based practices used for service provision
- ▶ Service eligibility criteria
- ▶ FCS's third-party administrator: Wellpoint
- ▶ Service referrals
- ▶ Provider network
- ▶ How to become an FCS provider
- ▶ Training and technical assistance

## ▶ The significance of partnerships

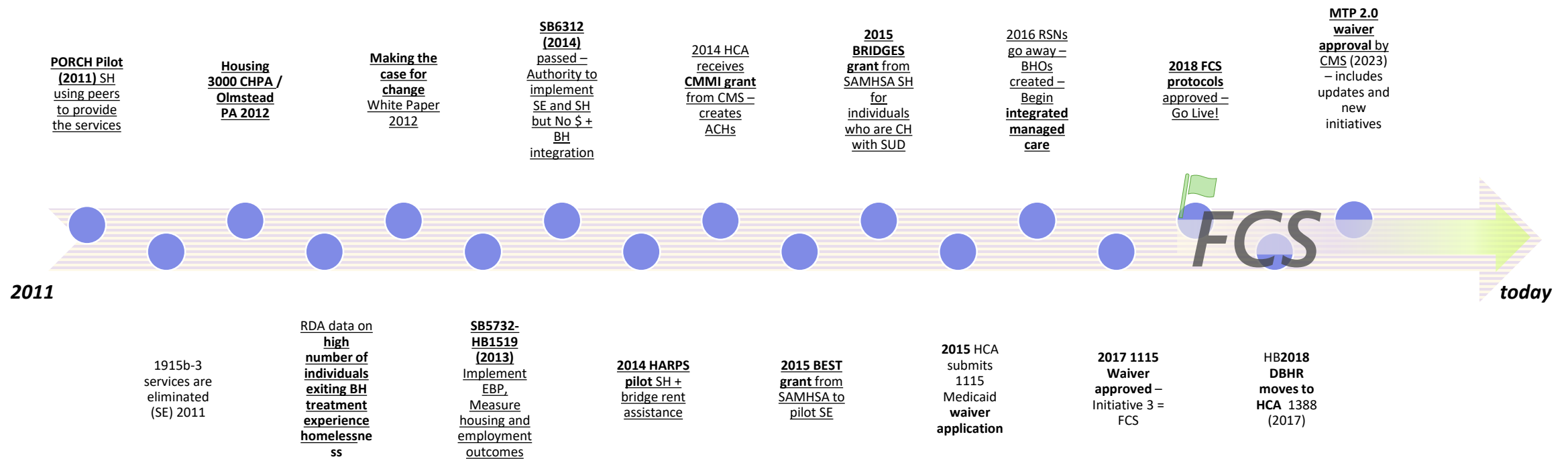
## ▶ Weaving resources

## ▶ New & ongoing FCS-related initiatives

## ▶ Tools, resources, & more



# Background



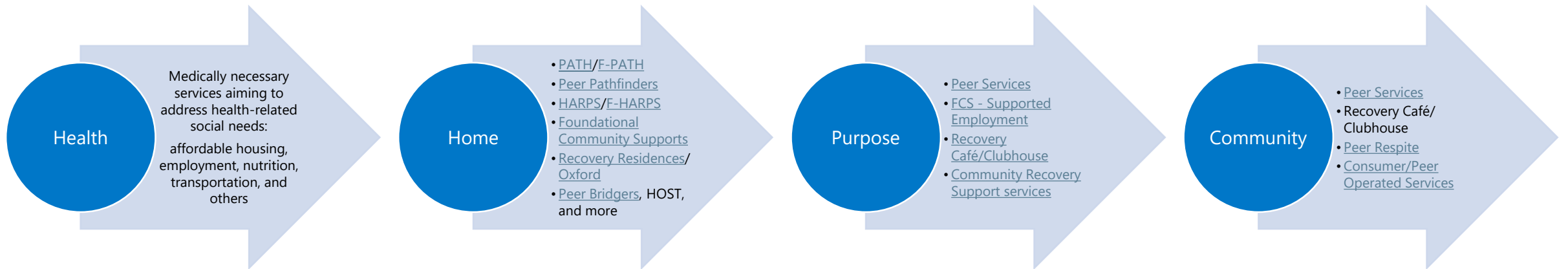
# What is FCS?

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- ▶ Supportive housing and supported employment services under 1115 Medicaid Transformation Project waiver (MTP)
- ▶ MTP is a 5-year renewable waiver
  - ▶ 2022: COVID extension year
  - ▶ 2023: new 5-year waiver approved
- ▶ FCS addresses health-related social needs (HRSN) of housing and employment by removing barriers to them while promoting recovery
- ▶ FCS services launched in Jan 2018
  - ▶ Over 14,000 individuals currently enrolled
  - ▶ 40,000+ individuals enrolled since the program's inception
  - ▶ 220+ contracted providers serving individuals across 560+ service locations

# HCA's Division of Behavioral Health & Recovery (DBHR): The Recovery Support Services (RSS) continuum

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# Evidence-based Practices and Principles

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## FCS Supported Employment

### *Individual Placement and Support (IPS)*

- ▶ Competitive employment
- ▶ Integration with treatment
- ▶ Zero exclusion
- ▶ Client choice is honored
- ▶ Benefits planning and education
- ▶ Rapid job search
- ▶ Systematic job development
- ▶ Time unlimited supports



## FCS Supportive Housing

### *Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)*

- ▶ Choice of housing
- ▶ Access to housing
- ▶ Community integration
- ▶ Decent, safe, affordable
- ▶ Rights of tenancy
- ▶ Separation of housing and services
- ▶ Flexible and voluntary services

# FCS Employment Support Services

## Individualized Services:

- Vocational/job-related discovery or assessment
- Career advancement services - Helping people to attend school and providing academic supports, when that is their preferences
- Individualized Job development and placement
- Ongoing follow along supports
- Negotiation with and follow along supports to employers
- Job coaching
- Benefits support, training and planning



# FCS Housing Support Services

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## ► Pre-tenancy supports

- ▶ Conducting assessments
- ▶ Care coordination
- ▶ Development of community supports
- ▶ Treatment planning
- ▶ Advocacy
- ▶ Landlord liaison
- ▶ Financial skill building
- ▶ Benefits support

## ► Tenancy Sustaining Services

- ▶ Coordination of care
- ▶ Employment and/or vocational Support
- ▶ Informal community support development
- ▶ Independent living skill development
- ▶ Advocacy
- ▶ Treatment planning
- ▶ Increasing Activities of Daily Living (ADLs)
- ▶ Housing retention
- ▶ Benefits management



# Eligibility criteria

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[FCS benefits](#) are reserved for people with the greatest need. To qualify, an individual must:

1

Be enrolled in Apple Health (Medicaid)



2

Be at least 16 years of age

3

Meet the requirements for **complex needs**

- You have a [medical necessity](#) **related to mental health, substance use disorder (SUD), activities of daily living, or complex physical health need(s)** that prevents you from functioning successfully or living independently.
- You meet specific **risk factors** that prevent you from finding or keeping a job or a safe home.



# Who is eligible to receive FCS benefits?

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Supportive Housing <b>risk factors</b> <i>One or more</i>	Supported Employment <b>risk factors</b> <i>One or more</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Chronic homelessness</li><li>✓ Frequent or lengthy stays in an institutional setting (e.g., skilled nursing, inpatient hospital, psychiatric institution, prison or jail)</li><li>✓ Frequent stays in residential care settings</li><li>✓ Frequent turnover of in-home caregivers</li><li>✓ Predictive Risk Intelligence System (PRISM)<sup>1</sup> score of 1.5 or above</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Housing &amp; Essential Needs (HEN) and Aged Blind or Disabled (ABD) enrollees</li><li>✓ Difficulty obtaining or maintaining employment due to age, physical or mental impairment, or traumatic brain injury</li><li>✓ SUD with a history of multiple treatments</li><li>✓ Serious Mental Illness (SMI) or co-occurring mental and substance use disorders</li></ul>

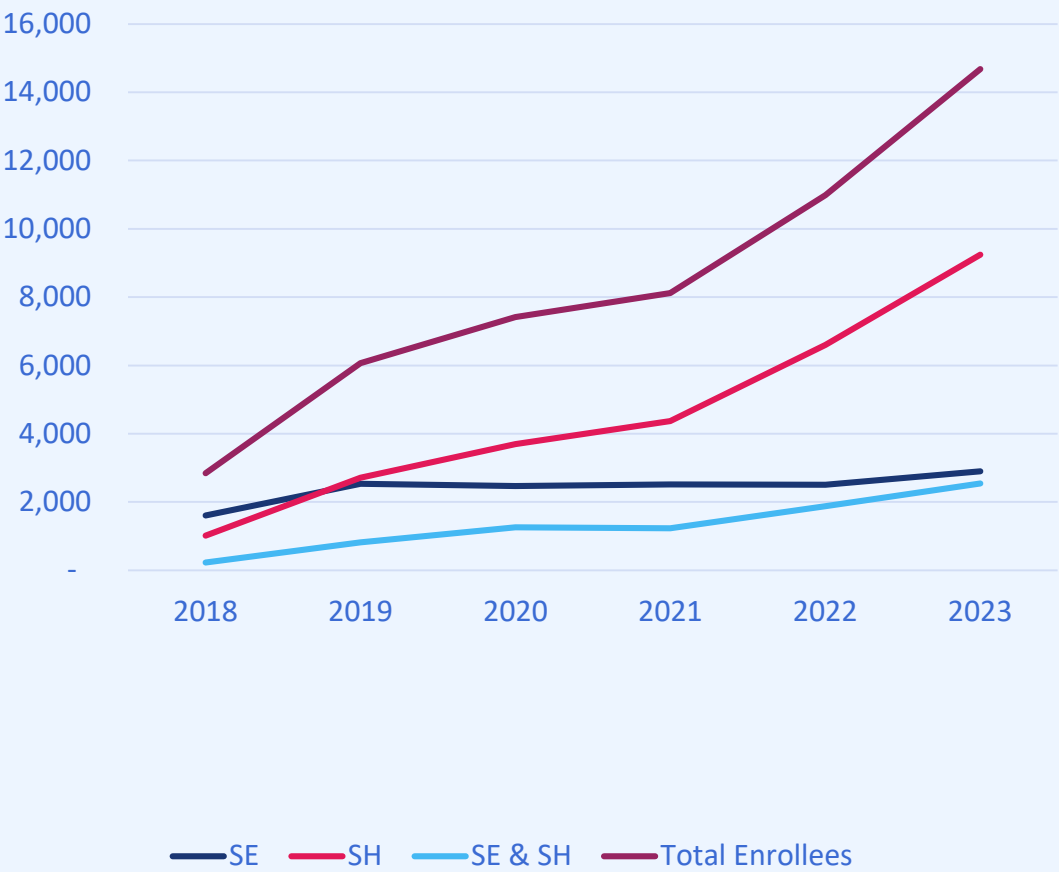
1. PRISM measures how much you use medical, social service, behavioral health and long-term care services.

# Enrollee count

Since 2018, there have been over 40,000 individuals enrolled in FCS services. We currently have about 14,000 enrollees.

As people became more familiar with the FCS program, we saw an increase of the number of assessments received in the first two years of the program (2018 and 2019). We saw a dip in March-May 2020 due to COVID-19, then it started picking up and returned to pre-COVID numbers by July 2020. Since then, there has been a significant increase in enrollment in 2022 and 2023.

2018 – October 2023



# Wellpoint: the TPA for FCS

*Wellpoint Washington* is contracted with **Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA)** as the **Third-Party Administrator (TPA)** of the Foundational Community Supports (FCS) program.

Wellpoint provides **administrative oversight** of:

- FCS Provider Network
- FCS Service Authorizations
- Claims payment and encounter tracking/reporting
- Quality improvement and measuring outcomes
- Sustainability Plan
- FCS Advisory Council



# No wrong door for referrals

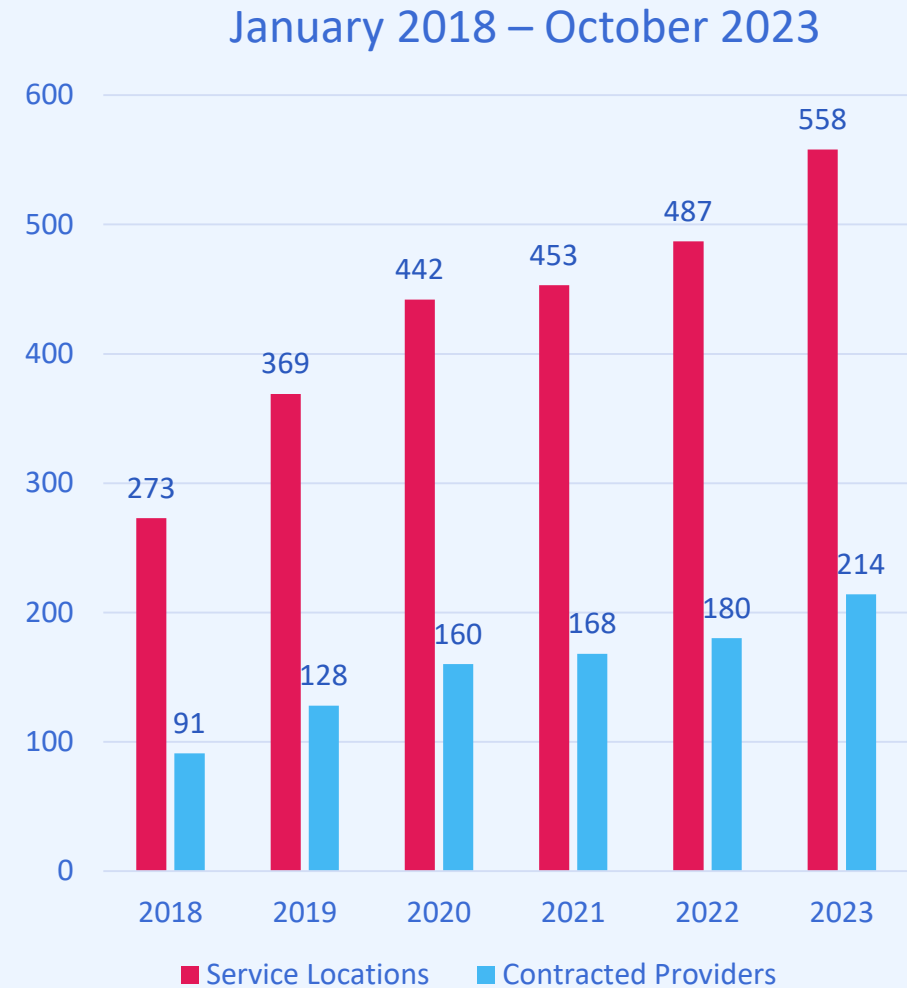
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- ▶ Anyone can refer a potential enrollee to the FCS program:
  - ▶ Self referral
  - ▶ Family member
  - ▶ Provider
  - ▶ Aging and Long-term Support Administration (AL TSA)
  - ▶ Division of Behavioral Health & Recover (DBHR)
- ▶ Quick Reference Guide helps evaluate who is eligible for SH and SE services
- ▶ All referrals are sent to Amerigroup TPA for authorization and enrollment

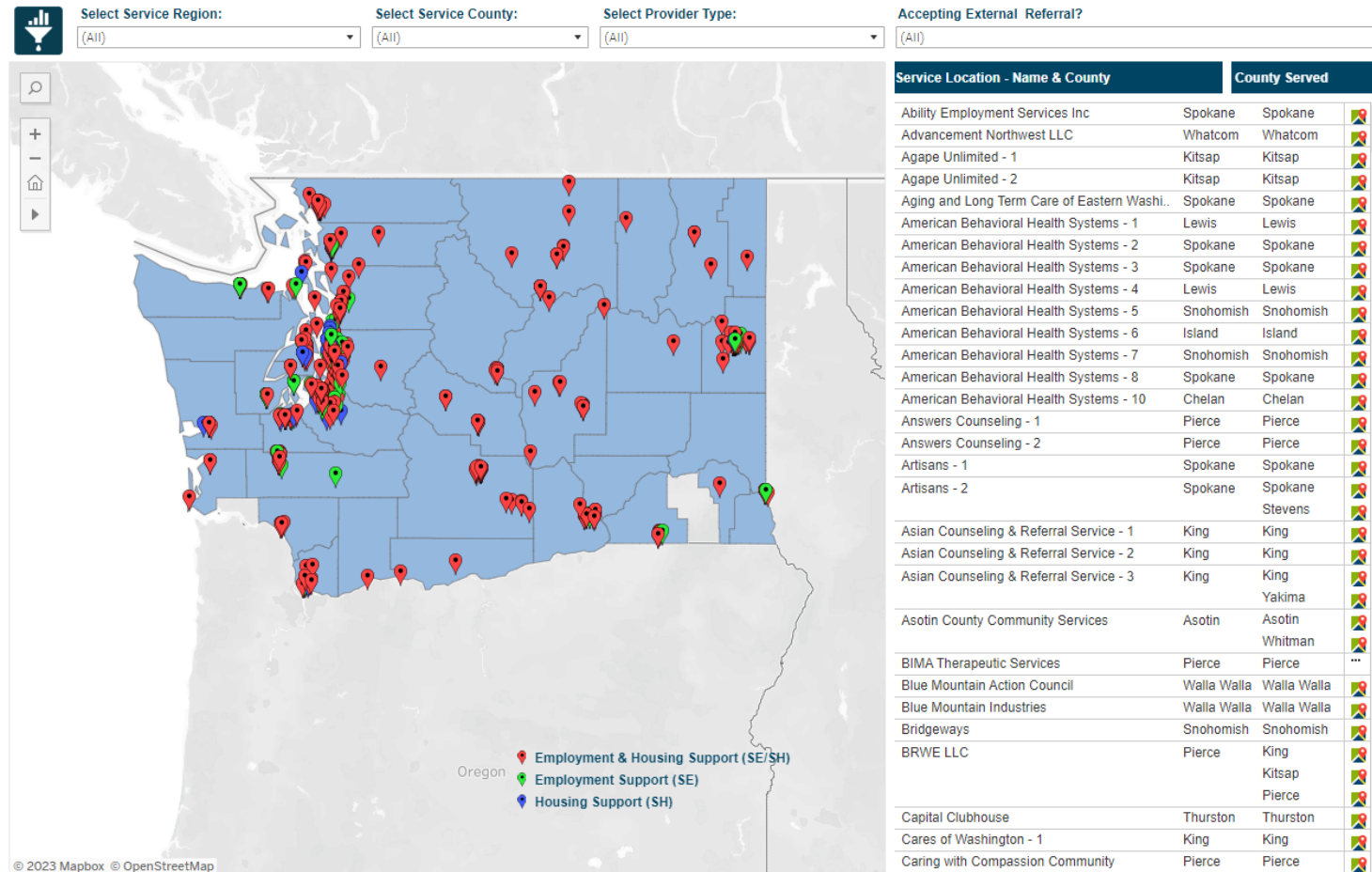
# Provider network

An FCS Provider Network has been built across Washington state with a variety of provider types:

- Community-based organizations (social services)
- Health care providers
- Community behavioral health agencies
- Long-term services & supports providers
- Tribal providers



# FCS provider map





# Forming partnerships with FCS providers

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## ▶ FCS is founded on partnerships

- ▶ Collaboration between HCA, DSHS/ALTSA
  - AHAH is a collaboration of state agencies: HCA, DSHS/ALTSA, Department of Commerce
- ▶ Wellpoint collaborates with HCA and the FCS provider network
- ▶ HCA collaborates to align initiatives internal to the Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR)
- ▶ FCS providers collaborate with community-based agencies to connect enrollees with resources, including landlords and affordable housing providers

## ▶ Advantages of partnering with FCS providers

- ▶ Service provider can meet individual enrollees wherever they are— home or in community
  - Supports enrollee's choice in employment, housing, and FCS service provider, and more



# Unlocking the potential in your community

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Social, welfare, legal,  
medical, dental  
agencies/services

Aging and long-term  
care providers

Community Action  
Partners (CAP) agencies

Associations and groups

Businesses, banks,  
utilities, industry

Local government  
agencies, especially  
housing authorities and  
health & social service  
agencies

Civic: Police, Fire,  
Community Watch

Faith-Based  
organizations and  
groups

School districts and  
youth-focused groups

Social engagement and  
recreation

Cultural and ethnic  
groups/organizations,  
agencies identifying as  
by-and-for, & more

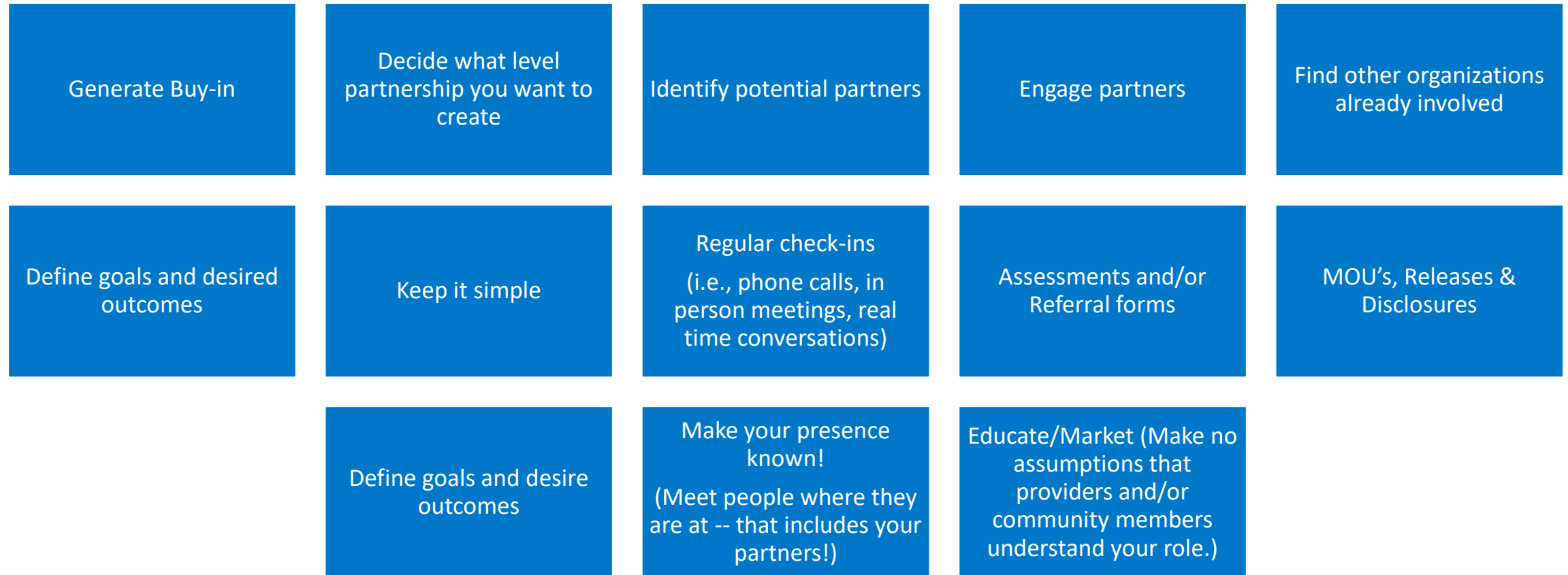
Human service and  
recovery support  
networks

*Anything you can think  
of!*



# Generating and maintaining partnerships

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# Braiding and weaving services and subsidies

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Braiding and weaving, layering, and sequencing supportive housing service and subsidy funding:

- ▶ Expands individual's access to resources
- ▶ Maximizes funding availability for all eligible individuals
- ▶ Helps provide a range of funding resources (services & subsidies) along the housing continuum

# FCS: braiding and weaving examples

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- ▶ Examples of braiding/weaving subsidies when providing FCS supportive housing services
  - ▶ *Supported Employment*: An individual...
  - ▶ *Supportive Housing*: An individual...
- ▶ Examples of braiding/weaving subsidies when linking FCS supportive housing enrollees with longer-term rental assistance
  - ▶ A low-income individual with behavioral health needs and Activity of Daily Living (ADL) needs could be connected to:
    - ▶ Department of Commerce's Community Behavioral Health Rental Assistance (CBRA) for a housing subsidy and
    - ▶ DSHS/ALTSA for move-in funds (application fee, deposit, furniture) *and* in-home services (e.g., caregiver).
  - ▶ A person being discharged from state hospital:
    - ▶ *Services*: HARPS ---Medicaid enrollment----> FCS
    - ▶ *Rental Assistance*:
      - ▶ CBRA
      - ▶ Housing Choice Voucher (HCV)
      - ▶ Project 811
      - ▶ Governor's Opportunity for Supportive Housing (DSHS/ALTSA's GOSH), OR
      - ▶ HUD's Non-Elderly Disabled (NED2, non-elderly persons with disabilities transitioning from nursing homes and other healthcare institutions into the community); other opportunities.



# FCS-related initiatives

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## ▶ **Discharge Planners Toolkit**

- ▶ A tool supporting discharge planners, case managers and other staff in connecting patients with appropriate housing resources in their area
- ▶ Features an electronic decision tree to generate a comprehensive list of potentially available resources

## ▶ **Transition Assistance Program (TAP)**

- ▶ Flexible funding resource in support of FCS Supportive Housing enrollees
- ▶ Covers move-in costs, interim rent costs, and other housing-related costs that arise along an enrollee's pathway to permanent housing
- ▶ FCS providers must be contracted with Wellpoint to access funding

## ▶ **Glidepath (to supported employment)**

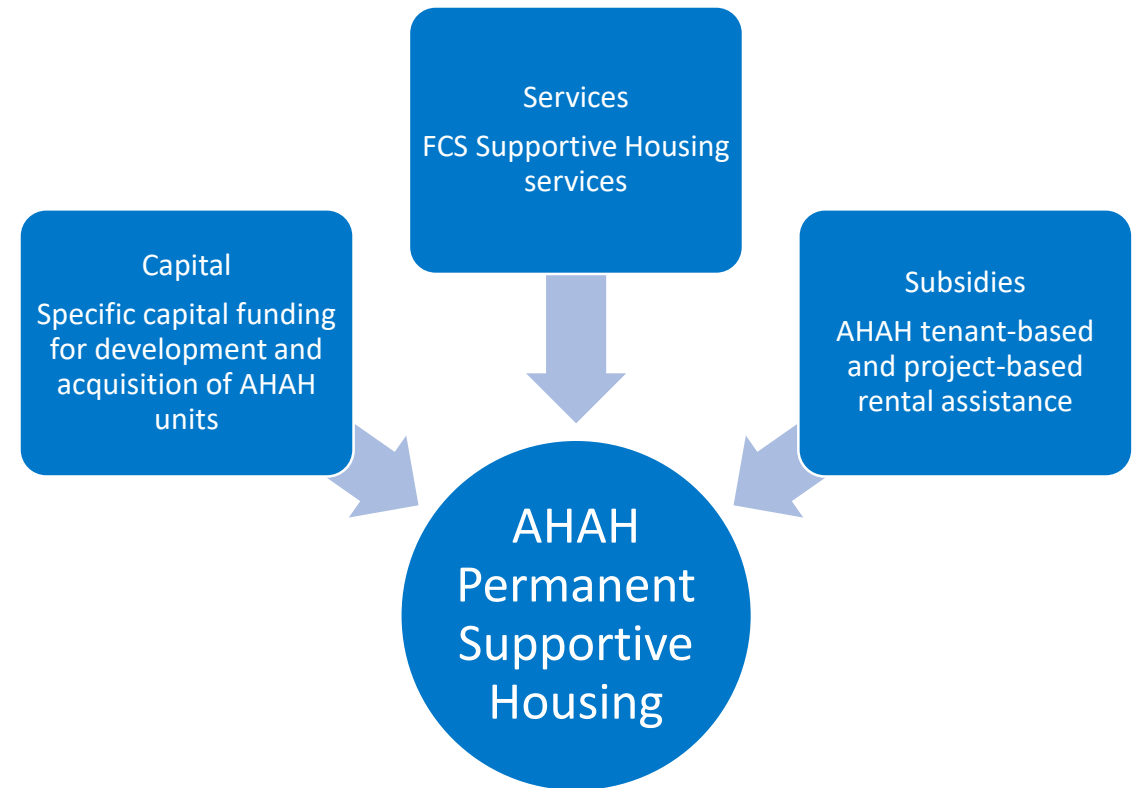
- ▶ Supported Employment & HEN expansion
- ▶ Offers up to 9-months of rental assistance to individuals who are falling off [HEN \(Housing and Essential Needs\)](#) due to an increase in income through employment
- ▶ Also offers flexible funding to cover employment-related costs such as job certifications, workwear, and more
- ▶ FCS provider in each Integrated Managed Care region managing the funding and providing benefit planning

## ▶ **Apple Health and Homes (ESBH1866)**

- ▶ Pairs FCS pre-tenancy and tenancy-sustaining supportive housing services with [Department of Commerce's AHAH Permanent Supportive Housing \(PSH\) resources](#)

# Apple Health & Homes (AHAH)

- ▶ Serves a subset of individuals meeting FCS supportive housing eligibility criteria
- ▶ Pairs FCS Supportive Housing services with permanent supportive housing resources from Washington State Department of Commerce's Office of AHAH
  - ▶ Capital funding
  - ▶ Rental assistance
- ▶ Wellpoint will coordinate permanent housing connections for authorized individuals
  - ▶ Randomized weighted lottery process serving certain authorized FCS supportive housing enrollees
- ▶ Launch date to be announced soon



# Upcoming changes to FCS

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- ▶ Currently implementing new age eligibility criteria for FCS Supportive Housing services
  - ▶ Age criteria lowered to 16+
- ▶ Aiming to shift FCS Supportive Housing service authorizations to 12-months (currently, authorizations are approved in 6-month increments)



# Becoming an FCS provider

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- ▶ Connect with Amerigroup TPA:
  - ▶ [FCSTPA@amerigroup.com](mailto:FCSTPA@amerigroup.com)
  - ▶ **1-844-451-2828**
- ▶ [FCS Provider Manual](#) – information on credentialing
- ▶ <https://provider.amerigroup.com/washington-provider/patient-care/foundational-community-supports>
- ▶ All FCS providers must enroll in ProviderOne
  - ▶ Gain [ProviderOne Access](#)

# DSHS/ALTSA's Housing Resources

## Videos & One-Pagers:

[Options for Housing Through Long-Term Care Services](#)

[ALTSA Housing Capacity Flyer](#)

[ALTSA Housing Brochure](#)

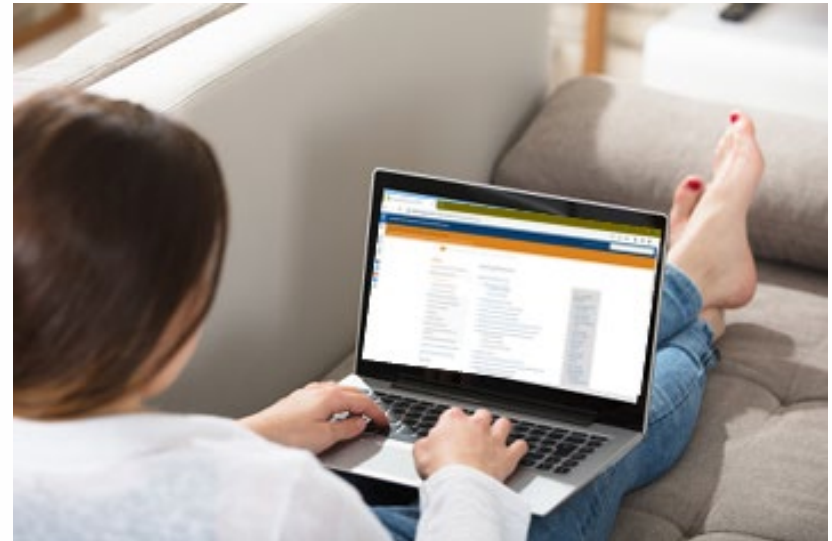
[ALTSA Housing Opportunities](#)

[What is the Governor's Opportunity for Supportive Housing?](#)

[GOSH One-Pager](#)

## ALTSA's housing webpages:

- [Housing Resources](#)
- [Supportive Housing Services](#)
- [Becoming a GOSH Provider](#)



# Additional Resources to help you with FCS

- [IPS Employment Center: What is Individual Placement and Support \(IPS\)?](#)
- [Pathways to Employment](#)
- [SAMHSA Permanent Supportive Housing EBP Toolkit](#)
- [Pathways to Housing](#)
- [Training/Event Calendar](#)
- [Foundational Newsletter](#)
- [Training Archives](#)
- [Homeless Housing Resource Center](#)



FCS's training and technical assistance team can support the provision of FCS services at your agency in a variety of ways. Please [contact us](#) for details!

# Additional FCS resources

- [Pathways to Employment](#)
- [Pathways to Housing](#)
- [Training/Event Calendar](#)
- [Foundational Community Supports provider map](#)
- [Wellpoint's Foundational Community Supports \(FCS\) provider page](#)
- [HCA's Discharge Planner's Toolkit](#)
- [Link to Current Housing Subsidy Matrix Tool](#)

## Other resources:

- [Community Behavioral Rental Assistance](#)
- [Washington State Housing Authorities](#)
- [Win 2-1-1 Network](#)
- [Findhelp.org](#)
- [Washington State Coordinated Entry Sites](#)

# Thank you

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