



## San Francisco Department of Public Health Housing and Urban Health

Edwin M. Lee  
Mayor

### Suspension of new referrals to Direct Access to Housing program

June 6, 2014

Dear Community Provider:

The Department of Public Health - Housing and Urban Health section reopened the Direct Access to Housing (DAH) pool for new referrals in January 2014. Since that time, DPH Placement has received and forwarded over 700 new referrals to our DAH Access and Referral Team (DART) for the DAH supportive housing program. Over the same time period, the DAH portfolio of 1,700 units averaged approximately 25 vacancies per month. Clearly, the demand for supportive housing continues to greatly outstrip the available supply. In order to meet our goal of assessing and matching the needs of each individual with an appropriate building option, we have to suspend new referrals to the DAH program effective immediately and until further notice. If Placement received and forwarded a DAH Clinical Referral Form (CRF) prior to this notice, it is part of the DAH pool and DART will be contacting you if an appropriate vacancy comes available that your client should apply for. The DART process remains the same; in other words, all CRFs need to be renewed and updated every three (3) months by the referring case manager/agency. As previously planned, we are transitioning to a web based application process over the next few months; thus, all renewals will be completed using the web based process. This new system will improve the accuracy of the CRF and reduce the burden of the update and renewal process.

In addition to closing the list to new referrals, we are improving some efficiencies of communication across the DAH Access and Referral Team. To that end, all communication about pending referrals or information necessary to assist you with applications and/or your clients move into our DAH sites should go through Sarah Dobbins, DART Administrator ([Sarah.Dobbins@sfdph.org](mailto:Sarah.Dobbins@sfdph.org)). Sarah will continue to work with Kim Pelish, NP who remains the clinical support to the Team.

If you have any questions or concerns about clients you have already referred, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Sarah at the email address above.

Sincerely yours,

Handwritten signature of Kelly Hiramoto in blue ink.

Kelly Hiramoto  
Acting Director  
Transitions Division

Handwritten signature of Margot Antonetty in blue ink.

Margot Antonetty  
Interim Director  
Housing and Urban Health