

Making housing more affordable for people with physical disabilities

CHRT

Individuals with disabilities are **twice as likely** to experience poverty



1 in every 7 U.S. adults has a mobility disability.



4 million renters with disabilities spend over half their monthly income on rent, mortgage, and utilities.



The average rent is **127 percent more** than a person with a disability's SSI income.



People of color and poor people with disabilities are even more acutely impacted by the nation's housing crisis.

Those living in unaffordable housing are more likely to

- Rate their health as fair or poor
- Miss prescriptions or treatments
- Experience evictions and homelessness

Rental assistance helps over **2 million people** with disabilities

Total people assisted by program



Supportive housing sections:

- Section 811 for people with disabilities: 32,000
- Section 202 for elderly people: 10,000

But more than **7 million homes** are still needed

Federal housing assistance designed specifically for people with disabilities has seen a **43 percent** reduction over the last decade.

57 percent of low income, disabled renters do not receive the federal assistance they qualify for.



Local and state policy options



Regulatory Reforms

States could consider allowing local jurisdictions to construct more affordable housing and reduce price pressures by **revising land use regulations**.

Check out the [Regulatory Barriers Clearinghouse](#) for more information about land use regulations.



Home & Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waivers

Given that people with disabilities are **three times as likely to be covered by Medicaid**, waivers are a good avenue to provide housing resources.

States could allocate Medicaid funds to pay for housing transition services, one-time housing payments, and tenancy-sustaining services.

Federal policy options



Making housing choice vouchers (HCV) an entitlement would lift one million people with disabilities out of poverty.



Increased funding for the Housing Trust Fund (HTF) would provide states funds to create, preserve, or rehabilitate public and subsidized housing for the lowest-income renters.



Increasing the supplemental security income (SSI) benefit and the asset limit could protect individuals with disabilities against housing insecurity and safeguard against poverty.