



Office of the District of Columbia Auditor

For Immediate Release
April 23, 2012

Media Contact: Candace McCrae
202-478-9129

Office of the District of Columbia Auditor Releases Report on the Department of Human Services' Permanent Supportive Housing Program

Washington, DC – Today, the Office of the District of Columbia Auditor (ODCA) released a report on service costs of the District Department of Human Services' (DHS) Permanent Supportive Housing Program (PSHP). This program provides homeless individuals and families with permanent housing and case management services to help increase self-sufficiency and improve the quality of life for all participants.

The Auditor found internal control and compliance weaknesses that DHS management must address in order to operate the program in an efficient and cost effective manner. Some of the key audit findings include: (1) DHS paid the Community Partnership, a private organization that provided program support, \$6,174,647 without reviewing any supporting documentation; (2) DHS rent calculations did not comply with PSHP regulations; and (3) DHS provided two bedroom apartments to households comprised of only one person.

To improve the operation of this program, the Auditor recommends that DHS implement vendor payment policies and procedures, provide training on legal standards, consistently comply with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) housing services standards and revise HUD's fair rent rates. "The Permanent Supportive Housing Program is beneficial to District residents in need. However, DHS must improve program management to ensure efficient use of the District's resources," says Yolanda Branche, District of Columbia Auditor.

Please visit www.dcauditor.org and click on the Reports tab to view the report in its entirety. For more information about this report or the Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, call 202-727-3600.

####