Homeless Services 101: What Reentry Service Providers Need to Know

Wednesday, June 22, 2016 2-3:30 p.m. ET

Mary Owens, Management and Program Analyst, US Interagency Council on Homelessness
Jayme Day, Director for Individual Homeless Adults, National Alliance to End Homelessness
Kim Keaton, Senior Program Manager, Government Affairs and Innovations, CSH

Facilitator: Maureen Richey, policy analyst, Council of State Governments Justice Center
National **nonprofit, nonpartisan** membership association of state government officials

Represents **all three** branches of state government

Provides **practical** advice informed by the best available evidence
Overview

Affordable Housing 101

Continuums of Care and Reentry

FUSE Program Model Example
Agenda and Housekeeping

- This webinar is scheduled for 2-3:30 pm ET
- This webinar is being recorded.
- All phone lines are on mute except for presenters.
- Q&A will be at the end.
- Please type questions in the chat box on the right-hand side of your screen.
Homeless Services 101: Housing Services for Reentry Populations

Mary Owens USICH
June 22, 2016
Agenda

I. Overview of USICH
II. Homelessness and Incarceration
III. Addressing Reentry and Homelessness
IV. Housing as a Solution
V. Conclusion
Homelessness in America

2015 AHAR Report

- In January 2015, 564,708 people were identified as experiencing homelessness on a given night.
- 31% were found in unsheltered locations.
- Nearly ¼ were children under the age of 18.
- 9% were between 18-24.
- 68% were 25 years and older.

Housing Affordability in the U.S.
for a Two Bedroom Apartment

- Annual income: $39,360
- Full-time job with hourly wage: $18.92
- Full-time jobs at minimum wage: $14.65

Estimated Mean Renter Wage in the U.S.
U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness

Leading the federal response to homelessness

• Create and Lead a **Common Vision**

• Establish **Policy Priorities** and Align Strategic Actions

• Reduce Fragmentation and **Duplication**

• Drive the National Implementation of **Cost-Effective Solutions**
Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness:

1. Prevent and end homelessness among Veterans in 2015
2. Finish the job of ending chronic homelessness in 2017
3. Prevent and end homelessness among families, children, and youth in 2020
4. Set a path to end all types of homelessness
Our Results Since 2010

- Overall Homelessness: 11%
- Veteran Homelessness: 36%
- Chronic Homelessness: 22%
- Family Homelessness: 19%
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Homelessness and Incarceration

- Nearly 48,000 people enter homeless shelters from correctional facilities
- Homelessness
- Criminal Justice Involvement
- About 15% of people in jail have a history of homelessness in the year prior to arrest (~340,000 people)
Reentry and Homelessness

• People leaving jails face housing challenges

• 50,000 people a year enter shelters directly after release

• Reentry programs and services do not meet housing needs
  • SCA cannot be directly used to cover housing or rental assistance
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Federal Interagency Reentry Council

- 20-agency Council established in 2011 by the Attorney General

- Coordinates Federal policy efforts to reduce barriers to successful reentry (housing, employment, benefits, services, civic participation)
Roadmap to Reentry

• Released by DOJ in April 2016

• Proposes reforms at the Federal Bureau of Prisons

  • Prepare motivated individuals to successfully reenter society

  • Reduce barriers affecting returning individuals
Enhance Reentry Planning and Services

Strengthening housing-related transition planning as part of reentry services

Expanding evidence-based housing and services interventions
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Connecting People Returning from Incarceration with Housing and Homeless Assistance

- Released by USICH in March 2016
- Tips on how to help people exiting justice systems connect to housing
- Provides a range of housing programs available for people returning from incarceration
## Typology of Housing Needs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing/Service Needs</th>
<th>Criminal Justice Involvement</th>
<th>Housing Strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Housing loss due to long-term incarceration, housing barriers due to criminal histories</td>
<td>Family reunification, rapid rehousing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High barriers to employment, substance use issues, mental health challenges</td>
<td>Affordable housing, rapid rehousing, transitional housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>People with law enforcement contacts due to criminalization of homelessness</td>
<td>Chronically homeless, chronic behavioral health conditions, and/or frequent users of corrections</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Family Reunification

• A family-based setting is the preferred housing outcome

• Only preferred when safe and appropriate

• Family members include biological family, including parents, other relatives and friends
Affordable Housing

• Assistance that enables families or individuals to pay no more than 30% of gross monthly income on housing costs

• Two primary ways to lower rent burden:
  • Subsidies through capital program or project-based/operating Subsidies (low-income housing tax credits and Section 8 PBRA)
  • Tenant-Based Subsidies

• “Mainstream” versus “Targeted” Programs
Rapid Rehousing

• Short-term rental assistance coupled with housing search and navigation services

• Connection to community-based services to support employment, health, and social needs

• Applications for formerly incarcerated persons is limited, but may be appropriate for people with low criminogenic risk
Transitional Housing

• Time-limited, typically highly structured residential program

• General premise is meant to bridge the gap from homelessness to permanent housing by offering structure, supervision, and support.

• Often considered for corrections systems and reentry contexts based on security and supervision considerations
Permanent Supportive Housing

- Permanent, affordable housing coupled with a range of supportive services
- Proactive, assertive outreach that connects people with the highest needs to permanent housing
- Prioritization based on objective measures of need, vulnerability, and cost
Permanent Supportive Housing for Reentry Population Through Pay for Success

- HUD/DOJ $8.7 million demonstration grant to address homelessness and reduce recidivism
  - Test cost-effective ways to help persons cycling between the criminal justice and homeless services systems
  - Make new Permanent Supportive Housing available for the reentry population
Mary Owens
Management and Program Analyst
U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness
mary.owens@usich.gov
www.usich.gov
The National Alliance to End Homelessness is a nonpartisan organization committed to preventing and ending homelessness in the United States.

The Alliance works toward ending homelessness by improving homelessness policy, building on-the-ground capacity, and educating opinion leaders.
What is the Continuum of Care (CoC)?

Established by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

**CoC as a Planning Body**
- Take a holistic and community-based response to ending homelessness locally and include all pertinent stakeholders, consumers, and relevant services regardless of funding

**CoC as a Funding Body**
- Cooperative Applicant for HUD CoC Funding
- Largest competitive funding grant in Federal Government
Why Work With A CoC?

- CoCs have housing resources
- CoCs have to be big thinkers so they are willing to develop strategic partnerships
- CoCs serve many of the same people
- CoCs are using best practices that keep people housing and save communities money
- CoCs are ending homelessness
Objectives of the CoC

• End homelessness according to the Federal Goals
• Performance Indicators (HEARTH Act)
  – Reduce overall homelessness
  – Reduce length of time homeless
  – Reduce returns to homelessness
  – Increase access/coverage to services
  – Increase employment and income
  – Reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness for the first time
Responsibilities of a CoC

- Coordinate with other entities (all homeless service providers, local government, other institutions and systems)
- Determine unmet need
- Improve performance
- Use best practices – Housing First approach
- Administer the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- Conduct an annual Point-In-Time Count
- Advocate and apply for funding
- Develop a “coordinated entry system”
Direct Funding for CoCs

• HUD CoC Annual Competition
  – $1.89 Billion in FY15
  – Cooperative Applicant
  – Eligible Activities
    • Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
    • Rapid Rehousing (RRH)
    • Pulling away from Transitional Housing and funding Supportive Services
    • HMIS, Strategic Planning
  – Eligible Recipients – literally homeless persons
CoCs Advocating for Other Funding

- HUD Emergency Solutions Grant – Shelter, Outreach, and Rapid Rehousing
- SAMHSA grants – Supportive Services
- Match funds for federal grants
- Others – SCA could be part of this mix
Coordinated Entry

• Purpose is to create a system to navigate everyone to the right services no matter where they go for help “No wrong door”
  – Referrals from community organizations
  – Direct access (phone number, walk-in)

• Considerations
  – What are the services available
  – What are all the possible entry points
  – How do people typically access services (data sharing)
  – Who is eligible for services
  – How should people be prioritized if there is scarcity
How to Partner with CoCs

- Sit on the CoC board or engage the CoC leadership in your planning process
- Convene CoC and Corrections agencies to plan for successful reentry and housing outcomes
- Work together with CoC to serve frequent users
- Share data between the HMIS and the CJ systems
- Prioritize people who will be homeless for your services
- Learn about unique needs/circumstances of criminal justice involved persons who experience homelessness
- Pay for housing services
Reach Out to your CoC

• Contact Information for CoC Leads
  – https://www.hudexchange.info/grantees/?granteesaction=main.searchresults&programid=3

• Timing of grants and engagement
  – Summer grant application (60-90 days)
  – State and local funding fiscal years
Contact Us!

Jayme Day
jday@naeh.org
202-942-8296
Homeless Services 101: What Reentry Service Providers Need to Know

Kim Keaton (kim.keaton@csh.org)
June 22, 2016
Supportive housing combines affordable housing with services that help people who face the most complex challenges to live with stability, autonomy and dignity.
Goal of Supportive Housing – Reduce Revolving Door Between Incarceration and Homelessness
The FUSE Model: Frequent Users Systems Engagement
What is FUSE?

Frequent Users Systems Engagement:

- Thousands of people with chronic health conditions cycle in and out of jails, diversion courts, and homelessness - at great public expense and with limited positive human outcomes.

- **Targeted supportive housing** for this most vulnerable and costly of this group can reduce costs while getting better outcomes.

- By finding a solution to the frequent user issue, the FUSE program serves as a catalyst for **system change**.
Planning Framework: The FUSE Blueprint

Data-Driven Problem-Solving
- Cross-system data match to identify frequent users
- Track implementation progress
- Measure outcomes/impact and cost-effectiveness

Policy and Systems Reform
- Convene interagency and multi-sector working group
- Troubleshoot barriers to housing placement and retention
- Enlist policymakers to bring FUSE to scale

Targeted Housing and Services
- Create supportive housing and develop assertive recruitment process
- Recruit and place clients into housing, and stabilize with services
- Expand model and house additional clients
Supportive Housing – For the Most Vulnerable Justice-Involved

Prison/Jail Population

Prison/Jail Frequent Flyers

Chronically Homeless

Homeless Single Adults
Example of Frequent Users’ System Impact

24% of inmate population stayed 4 or more times between 2009-2013

This 24% of frequent users stayed in jail 58% of bed nights over same period

The frequent user population cost an average of $11,492 compared to the average inmate cost of $4,829 – nearly 2.5 times more
Assertively Recruit Tenants at Multiple Intercept Points
Supportive housing combines affordable housing with services that help people who face the most complex challenges to live with stability, autonomy and dignity.
Providing frequent users of systems with safe, stable **supportive housing** leads to:

- Increased...
- Decreased...

**Increased**
- Cost Savings
- System Collaboration
- Quality of Life
- Self Sufficiency

**Decreased**
- Shelter Usage
- Jail Recidivism
- Use of Other Public Systems

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**Intervention Effects for Shelter Use and Incarceration**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of days in shelter or jail</th>
<th>Shelter days over 24 month follow up</th>
<th>Jail days over 24 month follow up</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>FUSE participants</strong></td>
<td><strong>Comparison group</strong></td>
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Bar chart showing comparison between FUSE participants and comparison group for shelter days and jail days.
Key Components of Model

- **Cross-systems, data-driven identification of target population**
- **Assertive targeting, outreach and recruitment**
- **Supportive housing**
- **Service coordination and care management**
- **Measure reductions in use and cost effectiveness**
- **Implement lasting systems change**
3 Steps Toward Creating FUSE

Engage a local champion
Sheriff’s Office, County Commissioner, CoC lead, head of Re-entry Planning Council

Identify stakeholders
Invite them to participate in multi-sector planning group

Scan/Create opportunities for supportive housing in your community
Visit CSH’s FUSE Resource Center

www.csh.org/FUSE

FUSE 101
Data on Outcomes/Evaluations
Tools and Resources
Community Profiles
Blueprint Step by Step Planning Guide

Kim.keaton@csh.org
Thank you

QUESTIONS?
Thank You

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For more information, contact Maureen Richey (mrichey@csg.org)