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Targeting Housing Resources to Support Reentry of People with Serious Mental Illness

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Disclaimer

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Maximizing Housing Resources and Reducing Barriers to Support Re-Entry of People with Serious mental Illness

Basics for Re-Entry Approaches



Basics for your approach:

- Get agreement on your purpose
- Use multiple types of housing resources:
 - for bridge and permanent housing
 - Units with deeply affordable rent, subsidies and set-asides
 - Ensure connection to services: to CMHCs, programs funded by your SMHA

Basics for Re-Entry Approaches



- Create connections at the systems level and for individuals to get and keep housing and connections to services and supports
- Identify and reduce barriers---this process never stops
- Create a list of all the essential functions and responsibilities for each---test out your flow
- Identify data points and create a daily-weekly dashboard to track progress

Basics for Re-Entry Approaches

- Ensure you can achieve “quick access” to:
 - short term rental arrangements
 - longer term permanent arrangements
- Maintain a focus on tenancy rights and help individuals with criminal records gain access to housing
- Build assertive engagement and tenancy support capacity—utilize Medicaid and state dollars for community and housing support services
- Become part of a local supportive housing initiative for individuals at risk or with high needs

Short Term Housing Resources

- Short term-bridge and transitional housing
 - Secure state and local funding-one time savings, shared resources with the criminal justice system, local government resources
 - Focus support on assisting an individual to create a long-term plan
 - Keep your timeframe short
 - Before your start: create a “next step” plan for individuals in short term housing

State and Federal Housing Resources

- Project (PBV/PRA) and Tenant Based (TBV) Rental Assistance
 - Benefits of each
- Operating assistance that covers operating costs and reduces rents
- Capital (one time) to cover pre-development and development costs
- One-time move-in costs (security and utility deposits, rent arrearages and household goods)

Federal Permanent Housing Resources

- Federal Rental Resources
 - 811 Program Rental Assistance (PRA)
 - Mainstream Vouchers (HCVs)
 - National Low Income Housing Trust Fund
 - LIHTC 9% and 4% Credits
 - CJCC grants and other one-time resources and grants

Each of these resources requires collaboration/ agreements between state and local housing and human services organizations

Types of State and Local Housing Resources

- Agreements with local PHAs for HCV preferences
- State and local housing trust funds/housing bonds
- One-time funds after risk requirements are met--Medicaid savings
- Joint arrangements with the CJ and CoC systems
- State and local general funds for services and rental assistance

Resources for Human Development



RESOURCES FOR
HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT

Started in 1970

14

States

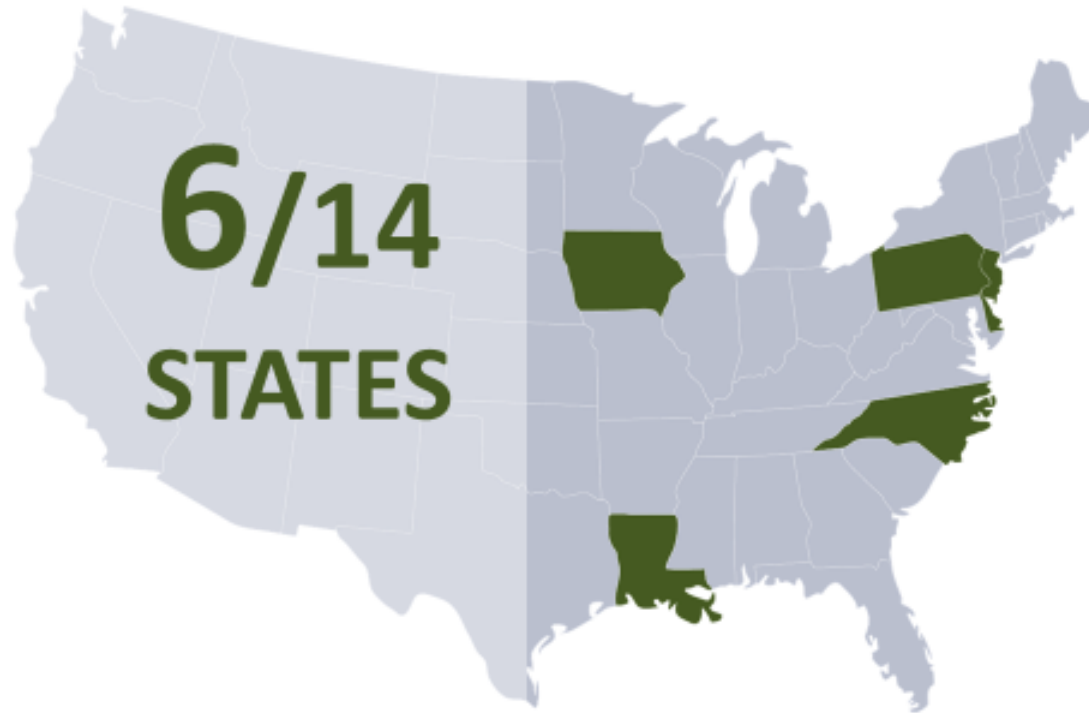
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Programs

RHD Supportive Housing



RHD supports 2000+ people living in
Supportive Housing programs in 6 States



RHD Returning Citizens services



Direct and Indirect RC programs

- RHD program specifically targeted to Returning Citizens
 - RHD Allies – Forensic Peer Specialists Program
 - RHD Core – long term dual diagnose rehab
 - Residential Programs
 - RHD Glassport – LTSR
 - Wister Street
 - New Start
 - Misty Harbor
 - Coming Home Program
- RHD programs that end up serving Returning Citizens
 - 13 ACT Teams, Critical Time Intervention (CTI), Case Management, Mobile Psych Rehab

Housing Smart – 1st person housed on 10/19/20



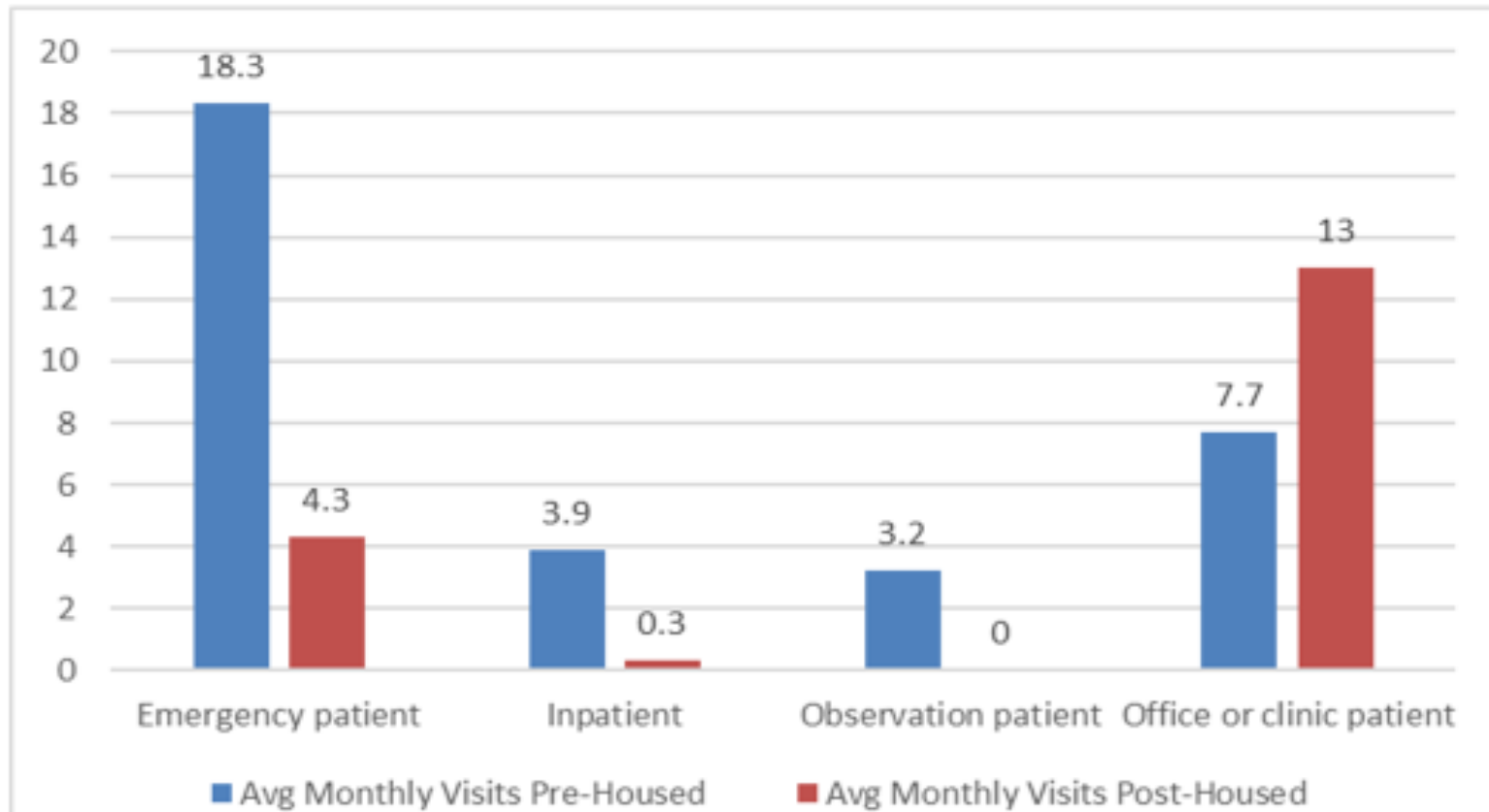
RHD Returning Citizens Pilot Program

- RHD Housing Smart for Returning Citizens
- Goal: Participants with Mental Health Challenges released directly to their own apartment with wraparound supports of a Tenant Services Coordinator, Care Coordinator and Peer Specialist
- Scattered Site Housing: Currently 14 apartments of 25 filled
- Master Leasing of 20 of the 25 apartments
- Meet with potential participants prior to release ‘behind the walls’ either in person or virtually
- Modelled off of our very successful Housing Smart program for frequent users of the Emergency Room at Temple University

Housing Smart – Temple Pilot

We've Housed 25 People!

Average Monthly Utilization Volume Pre-Housing vs. Post-Housing



Housing Smart for RC development



2000 people released because of Covid

- Persons with a history of homelessness and mental health challenges were being held because they didn't have an 'housing plan'
- The City was saving money from releasing 2000 people (119 dollars per day per person)
- People without supports were reoffending in the first week of being released
- Historically, 60% of persons released come back within 6 months
- As a result, RHD Housing Smart for Returning Citizens started

Housing Smart for Returning Citizens



Challenges

- Working behind the walls with restrictions of Covid
- Coordinating Discharge
 - Medication, Paperwork, Communication
- Master Leasing Apartments
 - Not Master Leasing Apartments

8 Bed - Peer Run Forensic Crisis Residence



8 Bed Peer Run Crisis Residence

- Crisis Residence – the crisis is returning to society from prison/jail with mental health challenges
- All direct line staff will have “lived experience”
- Operate under current crisis regulations of 7-to-30-day length of stay
- Long term housing and services plan to be developed prior to release
 - The Goal of the program is to execute the long-term housing and services plan within 30 days
 - Medicaid to be used for long term supports – Mobile Psych Rehab

- Our goal with the three programs is to switch funding over to direct Medicaid dollars especially for Mobile Psych Rehab Specialist and Peer Specialist services.
- Housing Funds –
 - Long term housing vouchers are needed... all the funding for these program receive temporary housing subsidies (2 years or less)
 - 1115 Waivers
- Value Based Payment – Foundations
 - Foundations to pay for 1st year of housing as a Program Related Investment (PRI)
 - Paid back with a Value Based Payment from Medicaid/MCOs

HUD Programs That Can Assist Returning Citizens

- While there are no HUD housing assistance programs that are specifically targeted to returning citizens, HUD administers many programs that can support housing assistance for returning citizens:
 - Homeless Assistance Grants (Continuum of Care Program and Emergency Solutions Grants)
 - Public housing
 - Housing Choice Vouchers, including HUD-VASH, Mainstream vouchers
 - Multifamily housing programs (Section 811, Section 202, and Project-Based Rental Assistance)
- Eligibility for these programs is based on other criteria such as income, age, homelessness status, Veteran status, or disability



HUD/DOJ Pay for Success PSH Demonstration

- October 2015: NOFA released to fund intermediaries proposing a pay for success initiative to implement supportive housing for a reentry population
- June 2016: 7 grantees announced for an original award total of \$8.7M
- January 2017: PD&R Evaluation started and currently continuing through Year 5 of the demonstration. Six of 7 grantees remain in the demonstration: 2 in implementation, 4 in transaction structuring.

Legal Name	Award	Demonstration Site Location	Eligible Activities Funding
Corporation for Supportive Housing	\$1.3 million	Los Angeles County, CA	Outcome Evaluation, Success Payments, Transaction Structuring
Third Sector Capital Partners, Inc.	\$1.3 million	Eugene/Springfield/Lane County, Oregon	Outcome Evaluation, Feasibility Analysis, Success Payments, Transaction Structuring
United Way of Anchorage	\$1.3 million	Anchorage/Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Alaska	Outcome Evaluation, Feasibility Analysis, Success Payments, Transaction Structuring
Rhode Island Coalition for the Homeless, Inc.	\$1,297,624	State of Rhode Island	Feasibility Analysis, Success Payments, Transaction Structuring
University of Utah	\$1.3 million	Tucson/Pima County, Arizona	Outcome Evaluation, Feasibility Analysis, Success Payments, Transaction Structuring
American Institutes for Research	\$1.3 million	Montgomery County/Prince George's County, Maryland	Outcome Evaluation, Feasibility Analysis, Success Payments, Transaction Structuring
Ending Community Homelessness Coalition, Inc.	\$881,376	Austin/Travis County/Texas	Outcome Evaluation, Success Payments, Transaction Structuring
TOTAL	\$8,679,000		



Evaluation of the HUD/DOJ Pay for Success PSH Demonstration

Purpose: To document and analyze the performance of PFS PSH Demonstration grantees and the partnerships they form across the PFS lifecycle to see if PFS a viable model for scaling supportive housing and improving outcomes for a re-entry population.

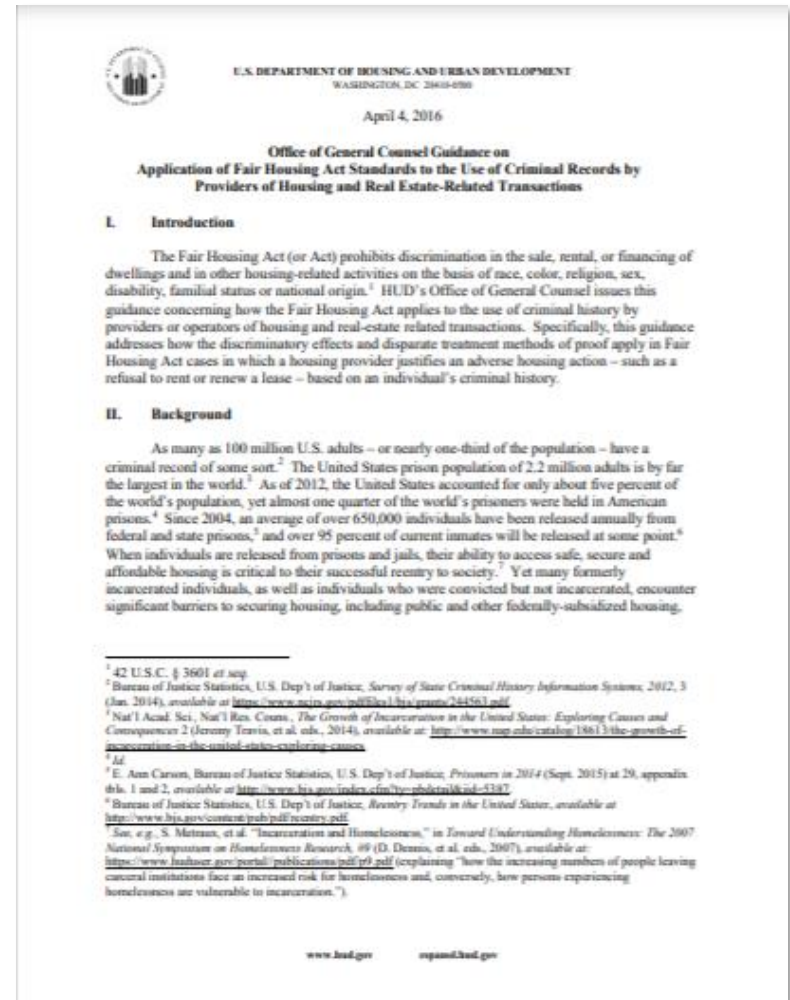
Research Objectives:

1. Document progress and processes among the PFS partners, identifying the successes/challenges that each grantee faced and how they dealt with it
2. Document the costs incurred by the PFS partners as the moved through the PFS lifecycle
3. Document the benefits of a PFS PSH model for a jail reentry population that will inform subsequent analyses of this model
4. Deliver consultation to the grantees and their independent evaluation teams on the development and collection of baseline outcome data



Increasing Housing Access for Returning Citizens

- 2016 HUD guidance on landlord use of criminal records in screening and admissions policies:
 - Housing denials on basis of criminal record could be discriminatory practice given racial disparities in criminal justice system;
 - Arrests may not be used to deny housing;
 - No blanket prohibition on people with criminal records;
 - Rejections based on criminal conviction must demonstrate risk to resident safety and/or property;
 - Burden of proof is on landlords to demonstrate that relationship between conviction and risk.



State-Level Innovation

- **Colorado** – Received Department of Justice Second Chance Act grant to pilot supportive housing models for returning citizens. Subsequently, directed state housing resources into supportive housing, including for returning citizens.
- **Connecticut** – Directed DOJ Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant and DOJ Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funds into rapid re-housing model for people discharged at end-of-sentence from CT Department of Correction.
- **Ohio** – Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections invested funds directly into statewide portfolio of permanent supportive housing for returning citizens, prioritizing individuals with mental illnesses.
- **Massachusetts** – Springfield Housing Authority partnered with Hampden County Sheriff's Department to create set-aside of Housing Choice Vouchers for returning citizens from county jail.



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