

10TH ANNUAL
EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES SYMPOSIUM

**BUILDING A
LIFE BEYOND
HOMELESSNESS**

August 11-12, 2020
Virtual Symposium



BUILDING A LIFE BEYOND HOMELESSNESS

Tuesday, August 11, 2020

9:00 AM – 9:15 AM

WELCOME

Percy Howard III, LCSW, President & CEO, California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions (CIBHS)

Brenda Grealish, Division Chief, Medi-Cal Behavioral Health Division, Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

9:15 AM – 10:30 AM

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

HOW TAKING PSYCH REHAB TO THE STREETS ENDED HOMELESSNESS: THE UNLIKELY STORY OF HOUSING FIRST

Sam Tsemberis, PhD, Founder/CEO of the Pathways Housing First Institute

How does a program developed collaboratively with people with lived experience of homelessness and mental illness succeed in ending homelessness? Pathways Housing First (PHF) challenges assumptions about homelessness, mental illness, and addiction. Several randomized trials report 80% housing retention for PHF vs. 40% for usual care. Implications for homeless policy is discussed.

10:30 AM – 10:50 AM

BREAK AND TRANSITION TO BREAKOUTS

10:50 AM – 11:50 AM **SESSION ONE**

BREAKOUT A: Outreach

No CE's will be offered

POST-KEYNOTE Q & A

Sam Tsemberis, PhD., Founder/CEO of the Pathways Housing First Institute

BREAKOUT B: Practices and Programs that Improve Housing Outcomes

#TAYALLDAY: AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO ADDRESSING YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

Marissa D. Guerrero, LMFT, Director of Community Services, Capital Star Community Services

Regina J. Bryan, Housing/Resource Specialist, Capital Star Community Services

Capital Star uses Housing First, an Evidence-Based approach that helps homeless individuals obtain permanent housing, to support Transition Age Youth with meeting their unique housing needs. We will cover the approach of Housing First, the principles used in the model to inform our work with TAY, outcomes, and methods used by staff.

BUILDING A LIFE BEYOND HOMELESSNESS

Tuesday, August 11, 2020 continued

10:50 AM – 11:50 AM **SESSION ONE, CONTINUED**

BREAKOUT C: Community/Systems Interventions

No CE's will be offered

EVALUATING AND STRENGTHENING COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEMS TO FOSTER EQUITY AND ACCURATE ASSESSMENT OF VULNERABILITY

Sasha Caine, JD, Staff Attorney, Homebase

Nikole Thomas, MPA, Policy Analyst, Homebase

Kathryn Kaminski, MA, Continuum of Care Quality Improvement Manager, Office of Supportive Housing, County of Santa Clara

Does our Coordinated Entry System accurately evaluate physical and behavioral health in assessing vulnerability? Is the system fostering equity in access to housing? How can we strengthen the system to achieve these goals? The audience will learn how to design and carry out an actionable equity-focused evaluation.

BREAKOUT D: Best Practices and Implementation

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR PEOPLE WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIAGNOSES: BEST PRACTICES FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION

Megan Kurteff-Schatz, MSW, MPP, President, Focus Strategies

Genevieve Williamson, Chief Analyst, Focus Strategies

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) helps communities house those with disabilities who are experiencing homelessness. Capital funding for PSH has increased in recent years (e.g. through MHSA and NPLH) and local behavioral health systems are actively developing additional units. This presentation will detail best practices for implementation and evaluation of PSH.

BREAKOUT E: Practices and Programs that Improve Housing Outcomes

ROAD TO RECOVERY: ACT SERVICES AND CIT LAW ENFORCEMENT COLLABORATIVE OUTREACH EFFORT TO HOMELESS SMI CLIENTS

Felicia Skaggs, MS, Clinic Administrator III, Ventura County Behavioral Health

Alexis Villegas, MPPA, Program Administrator II, Ventura County Behavioral Health

Mark Stadler, MS, Program Administrator II, Crisis Intervention Team - Ventura County Sheriff's Office

The Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) team utilizes Assertive Community Treatment, collaboration with CIT law enforcement, and a Housing First model for Seriously Mentally Ill (SMI) clients who are vulnerable and susceptible to homelessness. The extended and supported outreach services coupled with the EBP practices utilized helps promote recovery for SMI clients.

11:50 AM – 1:00 PM

LUNCH BREAK, (TRANSITION TO BREAKOUTS)

BUILDING A LIFE BEYOND HOMELESSNESS

Tuesday, August 11, 2020 continued

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

SESSION TWO

BREAKOUT A: Outreach

ENHANCING INNOVATION: COMBINING RESPITE, STREET MEDICINE, AND SOBERING TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Shannon Smith-Bernardin, PhD., RN, CARN, CNL, MSN, PHN, President; Assistant Adjunct Faculty, National Sobering Collaborative; UCSF School of Nursing

Gillian Morshedi, JD, Staff Attorney, Homebase

Noemi Doohan, MD, PhD., Public Health Officer, Mendocino County Department of Public Health

This panel presentation will cover best and promising practices in street medicine, medical respite, and sobering centers, as well as introduce an innovative concept that combines all three components together with a pharmacy. Together, they provide an initial step in the continuum of primary and behavioral healthcare for people experiencing homelessness.

BREAKOUT B: Practices and Programs that Improve Housing Outcomes

RAPID RE-HOUSING AND CRITICAL TIME INTERVENTION: A DIFFERENT SOLUTION TO PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Jamie Almanza, MBA, CEO, Bay Area Community Services (BACS)

Benjamin Blake, MFT, Chief Clinical Strategy Officer, Bay Area Community Services (BACS)

This session focuses on the Supported Independent Living model of scattered-site housing and the continuum of care supporting people in moving from homelessness to housing. The session covers Evidence-Based Practices, including Rapid Re-Housing and Critical Time Intervention, the financing model, and methods for providing supported housing co-ops for individuals with complex needs.

BREAKOUT C: Community/Systems Interventions

CIT: ENGAGING VULNERABLE PERSONS TO RESOURCES THROUGH COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN FIRST RESPONDERS AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Miriam Clark, Program Manager, San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health

Steven Scranton, Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) Deputy Sheriff, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department/Department of Behavioral Health

Kory Oberlies, MPA, Division Director I, San Bernardino County Probation Department

The San Bernardino County Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training program will highlight the partnerships working together to help individuals experiencing a crisis obtain appropriate services with the goal to reduce criminal justice involvement and acute psychiatric hospitalization. Training includes identifying homeless individuals, recognizing their symptoms, and empathic communication/de-escalation methods.

BUILDING A LIFE BEYOND HOMELESSNESS

Tuesday, August 11, 2020 continued

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

SESSION TWO, CONTINUED

BREAKOUT D: Best Practices and Implementation

No CE's will be offered

VENTURA COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH'S HOUSING PLACEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Susan White Wood, MPA, Behavioral Manager, Ventura County Behavioral Health

Ventura County Behavioral Health's Housing Placement and Improvement Plan incorporates EBPs into standardized protocol to determine the path to housing for vulnerable clients. It includes: 1) screening for appropriate placement; 2) Housing First principles; 3) new tenant on-boarding; 4) on-going individualized supportive services; 4) landlord engagement; 5) evaluation and feedback.

BREAKOUT E: Practices and Programs that Improve Housing Outcomes

LESSONS LEARNED FROM A CTI PILOT: SUPPORTING HOMELESS CLIENTS IN GETTING AND STAYING HOUSED

Gina Mittal, MSW, MPH, Director of Integrated Services, Jewish Family Service of San Diego

Heather Hocking, MSW, Director of Community Services, Jewish Family Service of San Diego

In San Diego County, Jewish Family Service started a Critical Time Intervention (CTI) pilot to help clients move from their cars to permanent housing, stay housed and build community supports. During this workshop, the presenters will discuss their implementation process as well as successes and challenges of introducing the CTI model in their agency.

2:00 PM – 2:10 PM

BREAK - TRANSITION FROM BREAKOUTS

2:10 PM – 3:25 PM

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

AGING AMONG THE HOMELESS: AN EMERGING CRISIS

Margot Kushel, MD, Professor of Medicine, Director of UCSF Center for Vulnerable Populations, Director UCSF Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative

In this talk, Dr. Kushel will discuss the aging of the homeless population, including causes, consequences and solutions. Using research, she has conducted, she will explain why the population is aging, the implications for health, wellbeing and housing outcomes, and potential solutions.

BUILDING A LIFE BEYOND HOMELESSNESS

Wednesday, August 12, 2020

9:00 AM – 9:15 AM

WELCOME

Percy Howard III, LCSW, President & CEO, California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions (CIBHS)

9:15 AM – 10:30 AM

THE MANY FACES OF HOMELESSNESS

Joe Smith, Advocacy Director for Sacramento Loaves & Fishes

Pixie Pearl, Director, California Homeless Youth Project

Lawson H Snipes Jr, Publisher and Contributing Editor of “The Spare Changer incorporated”

Mitchell Dumpson, Youth Specialist, California Coalition for Youth

MODERATOR: Percy Howard III, LCSW, President & CEO, California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions (CIBHS)

A panel of speakers who have experienced or are currently experiencing homelessness in California will discuss their struggles and challenges they face, as well as some of the strategies they use to cope and overcome obstacles. The panel will be representative of the diversity of individuals who make up the homeless population including youth, LGBTQ, women and African Americans. The panel will serve to inform and ignite conversation about some of the very real people behind the term “The homeless”.

10:30 AM – 10:50 AM

BREAK AND TRANSITION TO BREAKOUTS

10:50 AM – 11:50 AM

SESSION ONE

BREAKOUT A: Outreach

HOUSING FIRST: WHERE STREET OUTREACH AND BEST FIT HOUSING INTERSECT

Julie DeRose, LMFT, Chief Program Officer, Permanent Housing Services, The People Concern

Ciara DeVozza, MSW, Program Director, C3 Skid Row, The People Concern

Melissa Vollbrecht, LCSW, Director, Project Based Housing, The People Concern

Street Outreach is an integral part of engaging individuals in the services necessary to move them towards best fit housing. Through engagement rooted in trauma-informed and Housing-First principles, providers focus on vulnerable populations using these two evidence-based practices as key interventions necessary to move individuals from street to home.

BREAKOUT B: Practices and Programs that Improve Housing Outcomes

HOUSE PEOPLE FASTER, LONGER AND INCREASE EMPLOYMENT USING EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES IN SHARED RECOVERY HOUSING

Jason Robison, Program Director, SHARE! the Self-Help and Recovery Exchange

Peer Critical Time Intervention, Peer Listening and Disclosing, Self-Help Support Groups and Helper Therapy are evidence-based practices that increase employment, social networks and strengthen meaning and purpose for people in Shared Recovery Housing. This session will demonstrate how to use the practices to enhance outcomes for people exiting homelessness.

BUILDING A LIFE BEYOND HOMELESSNESS

Wednesday, August 12, 2020 continued

10:50 AM – 11:50 AM **SESSION ONE, CONTINUED**

BREAKOUT C: Community/Systems Interventions

LAW ENFORCEMENT CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM AND PROACTIVE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIPS: THE VENTURA COUNTY MODEL

Mark Stadler, MS, CIT Program Administrator, Ventura County Sheriff's Office

Felicia Skaggs, MS, Clinic Administrator III, Ventura County Behavioral Health

In 2001, Ventura County developed a collaborative partnership between its law enforcement agencies, their behavioral health department, and the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). This partnership has expanded to now include Rapid Integrated Support and Engagement (RISE) mental health outreach to people experiencing homelessness and mentally illness that who are the most vulnerable and hard to reach.

BREAKOUT D: Best Practices and Implementation

EVALUATING EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES FOR EFFECTIVELY REDUCING HOMELESSNESS: IDENTIFYING WHAT IS WORKING

Kate Cordell, PhD., MPH, Managing Director, Mental Health Data Alliance

In this workshop, we will (1) layout considerations and challenges for implementing EBPs in practice; (2) review which EBPs were reported in what combinations in Full Service Partnership Classification Pilot and discuss considerations of performing such a survey; and (3) provide examples of methods to evaluate the effectiveness of EBPs for reducing homelessness.

11:50 AM – 1:00 PM **LUNCH BREAK, TRANSITION TO BREAKOUTS**

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM **SESSION TWO**

BREAKOUT A: Outreach

No CE's will be offered

PROBLEM SOLVING AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: A HOUSING FOCUSED RESPONSE TO ENCAMPMENT RESOLUTION

Carol Alynn Gausvik, MSW, Sr. Director of Engagement, LA Family Housing

Elyssa Rosen, LCSW, Director of Engagement, LA Family Housing

There is a need to research and develop best practices grounded in evidence in response to homeless encampments, sometimes referred to as "tent-cities". This session will introduce the principles, methods, tools, and outcomes of a housing focused encampment intervention that is being evaluated in Los Angeles County. The intervention shifted significantly in response to the COVID-19 crisis. We will explain how we adapted our methodology and shifted our outcomes to meet the needs of the community.

BUILDING A LIFE BEYOND HOMELESSNESS

Wednesday, August 12, 2020 continued

1:00PM – 2:00PM

SESSION TWO, CONTINUED

BREAKOUT B: Practices and Programs that Improve Housing Outcomes

UTILIZING THE SOAR PROGRAM TO CONNECT HOMELESS CLIENTS TO SUSTAINABLE INCOME AND PERMANENT HOUSING

Kate Jones, SOAR Case Manager, Interfaith Community Services

Kendra Mackey, LCSW, Clinical Services Manager, Interfaith Community Services

This presentation provides an overview and implementation practices of Interfaith Community Service's SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) Program. SOAR is a national program shown to increase access to disability benefits to individuals experiencing homelessness who have chronic mental health or, physical impairments or co-occurring conditions.

BREAKOUT C: Community/Systems Interventions

No CE's will be offered

PEOPLE'S FIRST AID KIT: IMPROVING PRACTICES FOR PUBLIC HEALTH IN VENICE

Amanda Cowan, MSc, Outreach Director Hub & Spoke Clare Matrix

Lonnie Ressler, MPH, CHES Health Program Analyst, Community & Field Services Division
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

Karen Lauterbach, Director of Community Programs and Advocacy, Venice Family Clinic

David Busch, Lived experience

In Venice there are approximately 1,100 people experiencing homelessness, with 58% of those unsheltered living on the street, in tents, or in makeshift shelters. In January 2019 a coalition of community partners, including local government, was formed to address public health concerns related to homeless encampments in Venice. The goals were to develop solutions to sanitation issues to promote public health, enhance access to health services, and reduce harassment of people experiencing homelessness. Through our meetings and discussions with those most impacted by homelessness, we were able to identify and implement priorities including: vaccinations in the field, expanding addiction services, addressing sanitation practices, and initiating system change, as well as improving relationships between housed and unhoused neighbors. This is the People's First Aid Kit.

BREAKOUT D: Best Practices and Implementation

INDIVIDUALIZED PLACEMENT AND SUPPORTS (IPS) MODEL AS APPLIED TO TRANSITIONAL AGE YOUTH AT-RISK OF HOMELESSNESS

Christine Haworth, Occupational Therapist, OTTP-SF

The Individualized Placement and Supports (IPS) model has become the evidence-based best practice within the realm of employment services for people experiencing mental health symptoms. Come and learn about the application of the IPS model to transitional age youth at-risk of homelessness as exemplified by a pilot program in SF.

2:00 PM – 2:10 PM

BREAK TRANSITION FROM BREAKOUTS

BUILDING A LIFE BEYOND HOMELESSNESS

Wednesday, August 12, 2020 continued

2:10 PM – 3:10 PM

CALL FOR ACTION – *No CE's will be offered*

Sharon L. Rapport, Director, California State Policy, Corporation for Supportive Housing, (CSH)
Joe Weisbord, Senior Advisor, Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH)

CSH will share an exciting vision for moving from crisis to stability at the state and national level. The Compact for Thriving Communities is a collective call to action to policymakers, advocates and practitioners supporting health, choice, and equity, instead of institutionalization. CSH is launching the Compact as a national cross sector collaboration effort to address the housing and support services needs for the more than 1.1 million individuals and families whose only options are institutional settings or the street, due to the lack of alternatives. These are the people facing intersectional barriers of poverty, disability, and systemic racism. The Compact aims to center their right to live in a thriving community that they choose to call home. We will discuss the genesis of the Compact, what we hope to accomplish and how to get involved.

In California, CSH is working toward this vision through reforms of our state's response to homelessness. CSH staff will talk about the work to ensure our state is responding to homelessness in a coordinated way, is arriving at solutions promoting equity and independence, and is accountable for outcomes around homelessness. Staff will discuss two bills that will promote this accountability, as well as discuss a coalition campaign that will create a dedicated revenue source for housing and services to solve homelessness. An equitable response to COVID-19 must include solutions to homelessness that allow all Californians to thrive. The campaign will launch over the next month and we will end with a call to action to join our campaign.

CLOSING

Rick Goscha, PhD., MSW, Senior Vice President, California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions (CIBHS)

2020 EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES SYMPOSIUM PLANNING COMMITTEE

Kelly Ann Bitz

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Chief Executive Officer
Turning Point Community Programs

Samantha Spangler, PhD.

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