Innovative Approaches to Addressing Homelessness

What’s Successful in Other Communities, and in Florida
The Florida Housing Coalition, Inc., is a nonprofit, statewide membership organization whose mission is to bring together housing advocates and resources so that all Floridians have a quality affordable home and suitable living environment.
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Webinar Logistics

• Participants are muted
• Enter your questions in the box in your webinar panel
• Handouts are available with this webinar
• Forgot to ask a question or want to ask privately? Email me at plancher@flhousing.org
• This webinar is being recorded and will be available at www.flhousing.org
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Agenda

FHFC PSH Pilot Project: Village on Wiley

Managing Entity & CoC Coordination

Special Purpose HUD Voucher Programs

Miami-Dade Housing Trust’s PHA Set-Asides
Florida Housing Finance Corporation’s PSH Pilot Projects

Duval

Miami-Dade

Pinellas
Purpose was to evaluate cost benefit of PSH specific to high utilizers of crisis services

Competitive process

Special funding appropriation from FHFC
  - Construct PSH community
  - Analyze impact on public systems
PSH Project Details

- 43-unit apartment complex
- 49 scattered-site units, owned/leased by Ability Housing
- Pairs a permanent housing subsidy with supportive services
- After two years:
  - 68 out of the original 92 participants were still enrolled in the pilot project during the final evaluation.
  - 77 of the 92 participants have retained their housing.
Successful Outcomes

- 59% reduction in inpatient costs
- 58% reduction in hospital costs
- 43% reduction in ER costs
- 65% reduction in arrest-related costs
- 72% reduction in jail-related costs
- 66% average income increase
Village on Wiley: The Solution That Saves

Managing Entity/CoC Coordination
Housing Coordination
1. Increase and improve collaboration and coordination between Managing Entities, Local Homeless Coalitions, Designated Lead Agencies of Continuum of Care Plans, Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC), and other key state and local agencies as they relate to housing-related services;

2. Find safe, affordable, stable housing for individuals with mental health and/or co-occurring diagnoses; Ensure that these individuals receive the necessary support services to be successful in the community; and

3. Increase the number of discharges from state mental health treatment facilities to stable community housing in lieu of discharges to community crisis stabilization units, to addiction receiving facilities, or to placements increasing the risk of subsequent homelessness.

Central Florida Cares Health System & Brevard Homeless Coalition

- Pilot project that targets high utilizers of homeless services, hospitals, jails, DOC, and law enforcement
- Collaboration between CFCHS, Brevard Homeless Coalition, Street to Home Project, and Brevard Health Alliance
- Will be proposed to the Space Coast Health Foundation
Central Florida Cares Health System

Other Housing Coordination Activities

• Funding to expand supportive services
• Provider engagement in CoC Committees
• Step-down supports for PSH participants
• MHFA and Diversion Trainings
• TA to network service providers and community partners
The Housing and Resource Specialist is on the Board of Directors for Opening Doors NWFL and is involved with the ICARE project (funded by the Challenge grant). Facilitates collaboration and coordination to execute federally mandated Coordinated Entry policies, procedures, and practices to ensure the most vulnerable receive housing interventions. The ICARE project continues be a great example of Care Coordination using the Housing First approach and bi-weekly meetings are attended by the Housing and Resource Specialist.
I-Care Program: Opening Doors of NW Florida

- Temporary housing and case management to people experiencing homelessness.
- Linkage to landlords
- Deposit assistance
- Employment
- Life Skills
- Benefit acquisition
- Medical/Mental Health services
I-Care Success

24 people housed through the program

22 people have moved on to self sufficiency
Central Florida Behavioral Health Network

• Housing Development Projects, anticipated to add 240 rental units
  • Polk County
    • Blue Sky Communities and CASL, in collaboration with CFBHN, City of Lakeland, and Polk County Government submitted FHFC application
  • Lee County
    • Housing Project in development phase
  • Sarasota County
    • Arbor Village, anticipated to open August 2019
Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network

- Treasure Coast Homeless Coalition & Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network have rented two homes for persons stepping down from Mental Health Court.
  - Four men have moved into shared apartments after becoming roommates through this initiative.
  - Most recent house currently has four women residing.
Projects for Assistance to Transition from Homelessness

(PATH)
What is PATH?

- Provide support services for people who are homeless (or at imminent risk) and who have:
  - Serious mental illness(es)
  - Co-occurring disorder
- Services Include:
  - Street outreach
  - Case Management
PATH Services

- Goals to obtain community mental health services for the individual;
- Coordinating and obtaining needed services for the individual, including services relating to shelter, daily living activities, personal and benefits planning, transportation, habilitation and rehabilitation services, prevocational and employment services, and permanent housing;
- Assistance to obtain income and income support services, including housing assistance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, and Supplemental Security Income/Social Security Disability Insurance (SSI/SSDI);
- Referrals to other appropriate services
South Florida Behavioral Health Network (SFBHN)

- New Horizon’s Community Mental Health Center
  - CoC Housing Provider
  - 50/140 units are occupied by PATH consumers
- Joint street outreach:
  - Miami Beach Police Department
  - City of Miami Homeless Outreach Team
  - City of Miami Gardens Police Department
  - Aventura Police
SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, & Recovery

(SOAR)
What is SOAR?

- Model used when applying for SSI/SSDI benefits
  - Complete all forms, submit as one package
  - Submit documentation
  - Provide written medical summary report
- Best practice for people experiencing homelessness who:
  - Lack an address
  - Have mental illness (and possibly other disabilities)
  - Benefit from having an authorized representative (ie: case manager/SOAR processor)
How does using the SOAR model help end homelessness?

• Economic mobility
• Ability to pay for rent
• Decrease financial assistance need throughout systems, allowing for more people to get served
SOAR Data in Florida

**FY 2017-2018**
- 421/680 Approved Initial Applications
- 62% Approval Rate
- 90 Average days to decision
- 187 Applicants living outdoors or in shelters

**FY 2018-2019**
- 443/783 Approved Initial Applications
- 57% Approval Rate
- 92 Average days to decision
- 232 Applicants living outdoors or in shelters
SOAR Critical Components

**FY 2017-2018**
- 94% completed the SSA 1696
- 87% collected medical records
- 47% completed the Medical Summary Report (MSR)

**FY 2018-2019**
- 98% completed the SSA 1696
- 84% collected medical records
- 39% completed the Medical Summary Report (MSR)
SOAR Online Training & Tools

https://soarworks.prainc.com/course/ssissdi-outreach-access-and-recovery-soar-online-training
Lutheran Services Florida (LSF Health Systems)

SOAR Initiative

- Regional SOAR Team Lead
  - Provides TA in collaboration with the SAMHSA TA Center
- LSF-funded direct service providers
  - Receive Adult Mental Health funding
  - Must employ one employee who is the SOAR processor
Special Purpose
HUD Voucher Programs
Non-Elderly Disabled Vouchers

HUD’s Section 811 Mainstream Housing Choice Voucher Program

(NED)
Rental Assistance for Non-Elderly Persons with Disabilities

- Assist non-elderly persons with disabilities who are:
  - Transitioning out of institutional or other separated settings;
  - At serious risk of institutionalization;
  - Homeless; or
  - At risk of becoming homeless
2018 NED Awards in Florida

- 17 Public Housing Authorities
- 674 Vouchers
- Total Award: $5,654,856
Broward County’s NED Application

BBHC

BBHC

BC

CHIP

BCHA
Collaborative Effort

Broward County Housing Authority
Applicant

Partnerships
Broward County Homeless Initiative Partnership
Broward Behavioral Health Coalition
Other Human Services Community Providers
Collaborative Effort Continued

- Data Sharing
- Coordinated Entry
- Strategic Planning
- Multi-System Collaboration
Broward County Housing Authority

79 NED Vouchers

$705,692
Family Unification Program (FUP)
# FUP-Eligible Populations

## Families
- Imminent placement of the family’s child(ren) in out-of-home care
- Delay in discharge of the child(ren) to the family from out-of-home care

## Transition Age Youth Aging Out of the Foster Care System
- 18-24 years old
  - Have left foster care
  - Leaving foster care within 90 days
- Is homeless, or at-risk of becoming homeless at age 16 or older
FUP Awards in Florida: 2018

- 6 Public Housing Authorities
- 374 Vouchers
- $3,245,861
FUP Rental Assistance Demonstration

• Targets transition age youth:
  • 18-21 years old
  • Who left foster care at age 16 or older; and
  • Who lacks adequate housing

• Participation in both FUP and Family Self Sufficiency

• Extends FUP Youth project from 18 months to 5 years, allowing for full-term participation in FSS
  • Can extend beyond 5 years, if FSS Contract of Participation is extended
Miami-Dade Homeless Trust (MDHT)
Positive Impact of Developing a PHA Set-Aside Strategy

- Direct access to subsidies or affordable units outside of the CoC’s limited funded projects
- Implementing a move-up strategy for housing participants who no longer participate in the intensive services paired with a PSH housing subsidy
- Better use of resources, creating flow in the CoC system
MDHT/PHA
Set-Asides

116
FHFC ELI

307
Housing Choice Vouchers

113
Project-Based Vouchers

116
MDHA Multifamily Owned Properties

11
MDHA Multifamily Owned Properties

109
Family Unification Program Vouchers

45
Public Housing Units*

513
HUD-VASH Vouchers
Coordinated Entry

Referral prioritization is based on:
Length of time homeless & Severity of disability
Other Special Voucher Programs & CES

Family Unification Program
- Referrals are made by the Public Child Welfare Agency designee in coordination with MDHT
- CM provided by PCWA

HUD-VASH
- Referrals are made by the VA in consultation with MDHT
- CM provided by VA
Move-Up Vouchers

MOU requires supportive services be provided to the housing participant for 180 after transitioning from PSH to HCV

Program Type

HCV  NED
Resources

- https://soarworks.prainc.com/
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Next Tuesday, June 18th at 2pm

2018-2019 Legislative Wrap-Up for Advocates in Homelessness Services

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