

Rapid Rehousing & Emergency Shelter

Learning Circle Summary

February 19, 2016

Topic	Responses and themes
Hopes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More resources to connect with permanent housing and housing stability• House families quickly and appropriately• Treat families with respect and include family choice in decision making• Need for more affordable housing.• Need for wrap around teams of support
What you bring and what other bring	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Both shelters and RRH have case management and form relationships with families• There is a high expectation of RRH and what it can bring – Need to right size expectations• Shelter is able to complete credit reports and ORCA cards – They could use a more in depth screening report, help with housing applications, birth certificates and work on other early barriers• RRH can bring financial assistance, communication with landlords and goal setting• Some RRH providers work closely with employment navigators• Time that shelter case management can support housing search varies <p data-bbox="418 995 553 1020">Action steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase contact between shelter and RRH staff• Share resources across shelter and RRH staff• Shelter can help with expectations of RRH before it begins• Shelter can look at possible barriers to housing immediately• Not all RRH and Shelter programs are the same – Is there a way to standardize or at least know what expectations are in all programming?
Strengths and challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When shelter and RRH relationships exist, things are great• When shelter and RRH relationships don't exist, things are tough• There is a challenge in communication• Often RRH starts after a family has been in shelter for a while, so there is limited time to work with the family while they can remain in shelter; there are different rules at different shelters• Shelter staff aren't notified when a RRH referral is made, let alone which provider the family ended up with• When a family refuses to work with RRH, the shelter is not notified• DV shelters feel a little disconnected since they don't receive referrals from FHC <p data-bbox="418 1698 553 1724">Action steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Send updated shelter and RRH staff contact information
Ideas!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have RRH providers contact shelter ASAP to establish contact and support for family• Work with family to see if monthly RRH and shelter staff check-ins are possible• Pair shelters with specific RRH programs (geographically preferred)• Needs assessment early on

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- Form a committee to do case review when families aren't moving forward in RRH
 - Meet more frequently as shelter and RRH staff to build trust
 - Facilitate a meeting where each program explains their program and expectations
 - Figure out a solution for the families who need more than 6 months of support, but don't need permanent supportive housing – What's a happy medium response?
 - When changes happen to the RRH program, update shelter (and vice versa)
 - Have back to back RRH and shelter learning circles with one hour overlap for continued collaboration
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