Introduction to Housing First & Harm Reduction
AGENDA

9:00   Welcome!
9:15   Housing First Systems
10:30  --Break
10:45  Implementing Housing First
12:00  --Lunch
12:45  Harm Reduction Overview
1:45   --Break
2:00   Practicing Harm Reduction
THE ORGANIZATION: WHO IS ALL HOME?

ALL HOME is a community-wide partnership to make homelessness in King County rare, brief and one-time. We bring together local governments, religious institutions, non-profits, philanthropic organizations, shelter and housing providers, the private sector and engaged citizens in a coordinated effort that both responds to the immediate crisis of homeless individuals and addresses the root causes of the problem in our region.
WHAT DOES ALL HOME DO?

All Home’s vision is that homelessness is RARE in King County, racial DISPARITIES are eliminated, and if one becomes homeless, it is BRIEF and only a ONE-TIME occurrence. All Home’s role is to lead the Seattle/King County Continuum of Care in realizing this vision by:

– Developing a common agenda and plan of action,
– Building the capacity of funders and providers to implement,
– Measuring results, monitoring performance, and holding ourselves accountable, and
– Communicating transparently and continuously
WHAT DOES ALL HOME DO?

- Hold our community accountable to our goals
- Eliminate racial disparities
- Improve system & service responses for people experiencing homelessness
- Align funding, strategies and priorities to improve system performance
Homelessness is Rare, Brief, and One-Time

Goal 1: RARE: Address the causes of homelessness
Goal 2: BRIEF, ONE-TIME: Improve and expand existing programs and processes
Goal 3: COMMUNITY: Engage the entire Community to End Homelessness

Data-driven governance and accountability
Person-centered, collaborative, compassionate, equitable

Fewer homeless
More housed
Less homelessness
Fewer days
Fewer returns
Reduced disparity
Increased support

Our Community's Strategic Plan 2015-2019

Vision
Outcomes
Goal & Strategy
How we work together
Our values

Fewer homeless
More housed
Reduced disparity
Increased support
More housed
Fewer returns
Engage the entire Community to End Homelessness
Data-driven governance and accountability
Person-centered, collaborative, compassionate, equitable
ALL HOME GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Coordinating Board

System Committees
(System Performance, CEA, Funders)

Stakeholder Engagement
(Various coalitions and regional stakeholder meetings)

People with Experiences of Homelessness
(CAC, Focus Groups, Surveys)

Action Plan Workgroups
(Rare, Brief/One-Time, Community, Race/Equity)
THE “SYSTEM” – AN OVERVIEW

Our History
TODAY

THE “SYSTEM”
Making the case for this shift

- Binge Drinking: 301,400
- In Poverty: 240,797
- Severely Rent Burdened: 197,330
- Severe mental illness: 60,500
- 2017 PIT Count: 11,643
## Making the case...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Housing Type</th>
<th>Length of Stay</th>
<th>Exits to Permanent Housing</th>
<th>Rates of Returns to Homelessness</th>
<th>Average Cost per HH Exit to PH*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Shelter</td>
<td>55 days</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>$981/adult $5,677/family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional Housing</td>
<td>322 days</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>$20,396/adult $32,627/family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapid Re-housing</td>
<td>207 days</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>$11,507/family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent Supportive Housing</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>Not available</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Making the case...

Homeless Nationally
A Housing First Community

✓ The belief that all people are housing ready
✓ Program staff know how to assist people to apply for and obtain permanent housing
✓ Unified, streamlined and user-friendly coordinated entry process to connect people with the most appropriate housing and services
✓ There exists a data-driven approach to prioritizing the most vulnerable people for housing assistance
A Housing First Community

✓ Policymakers, funders and providers plan collaboratively and align resources to ensure those resources are available to maximize housing choice for people who need it

✓ Eligibility and screening policies do not create barriers to access needed resources

✓ Eviction back into homelessness is avoided through the transfer of one housing solution to another if needed
Housing First...

Permanent Supportive Housing

- Permanent Housing
- Services to support tenancy
- Connection to community
- Health and behavioral health services
FEDERAL PERSPECTIVES
System Performance Dashboard  
4/1/2016 to 3/31/2017

How is our system performing?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exits to Permanent Housing</th>
<th>Average Length of Stay</th>
<th>Returns to Homelessness</th>
<th>Homeless Entries</th>
<th>Utilization Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36%</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reduce the number of people who experience homelessness by targeting our prevention resources

Reduce the number of people who need shelter by utilizing Diversion

Increase the number of people who move into permanent housing and the time in which they do so

Functional Zero:
When everyone who needs emergency assistance can receive it without waiting and exits to PH within 20 days
Why do Housing First?

• Evidence-based approach (*the data shows...*)
• Cost effective (*reduces cost on other systems*)
• Reduces the length of time someone experiences homelessness (*improves outcomes for people*)
• Federal shifts and requirements (*access to and competitiveness for critical funding*)
WHY DO HOUSING FIRST?

Homelessness is TRAUMA

Whether (domestic violence, PTSD, victimization) are contributing factors to someone’s experience of homelessness, people experiencing homelessness are experiencing trauma.

DV survivors: the greater the housing instability, the higher the risk factors

People experiencing homelessness are more often victims of crime

De-humanizing effects of not having a home
HOUSING FIRST: LEADING FROM RACIAL EQUITY

• Reduced barriers – Improved access
• Prioritization based on the most vulnerable
• Advocating for HOUSING (not on our terms)
• Cultural Humility and person-centered services

What else can we do?
• Become an anti-oppressive or anti-racist organization
Why do Housing First?

It’s the just thing to do

“There are so many systemic barriers, challenges, and injustices that our survivors face, for them to receive housing, feels just.”

-Local DV Advocate
Time for a Break