



Building bridges to prevent incarceration

**Addressing the Unique
Needs of Individuals
Impacted by Justice
Involvement, Behavioral
Health Challenges and
Homelessness**



Outline and Panelists

- Critical Issues and Best Practices in the Intersections of Justice Involvement, Behavioral Health, and Homelessness – *Stephanie Welch, Executive Officer, The Council on Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health*
- Stories of Lived Experience – *Wayne Garcia, Vice President of Criminal Justice Programs, HealthRight360* and program members *Shayondelece Sledge and Yvonne Tate*
- Diversion and Reentry Programs for Local (jail) and State (prison) Populations – *Doug Bond, Chief Executive Officer, Amity Foundation*
- Strategies to Impact Challenges and Opportunities Identified – *Panelists*
- Q and A and Discussion with *Panelists*



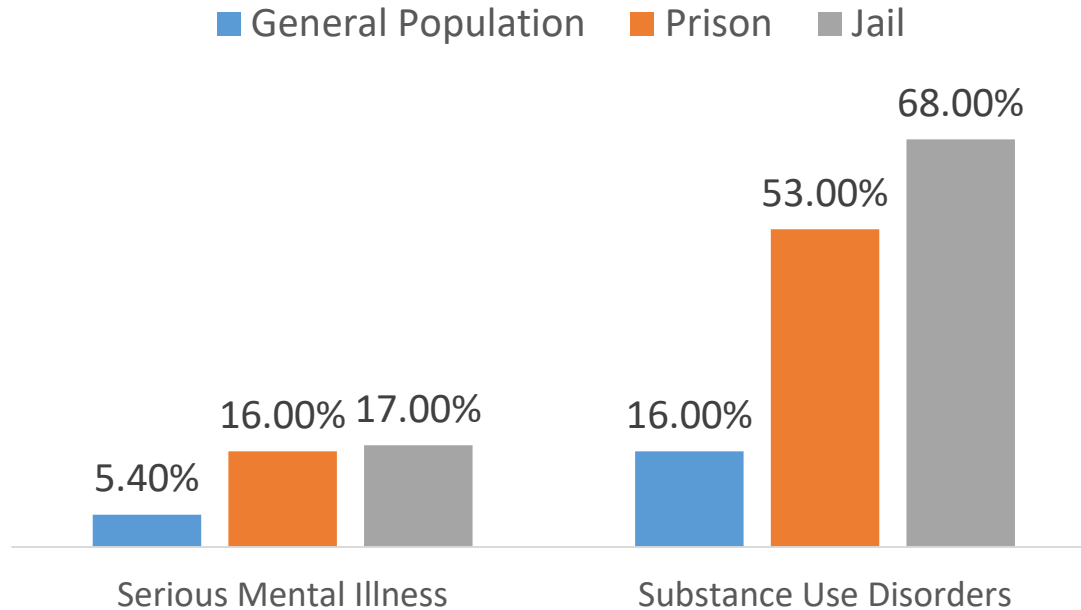
Goals for Presentation

- Identify critical issues and best practices
- Explore how *Housing First* can be effectively and appropriately applied to justice-involved individuals experiencing behavioral health challenges and understand the barriers to doing so
- Listen and learn from experiences of people living in this intersection, what are the challenges and what works to overcome them
- Raise awareness of the differences between serving individuals with multiple interactions with jails vs significant time served in state institutions/prisons
- Discuss how HCFC can support strategies that effectively impact this population at such high risk of homelessness



System Over-Representation

Estimated Proportion of Adults with Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders



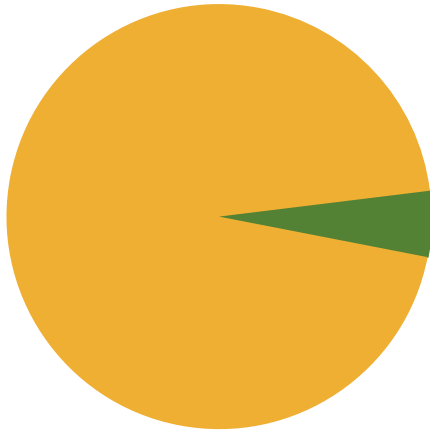
Source: Data from various sources cited in Osher, F. et al., Adults with Behavioral Health Needs Under Correctional Supervision: A Shared Framework for Reducing Recidivism and Promoting Recovery, Council of State Governments (2012), 6.



High % of Co-Occurring SUD/ SMI Disorders

General Population

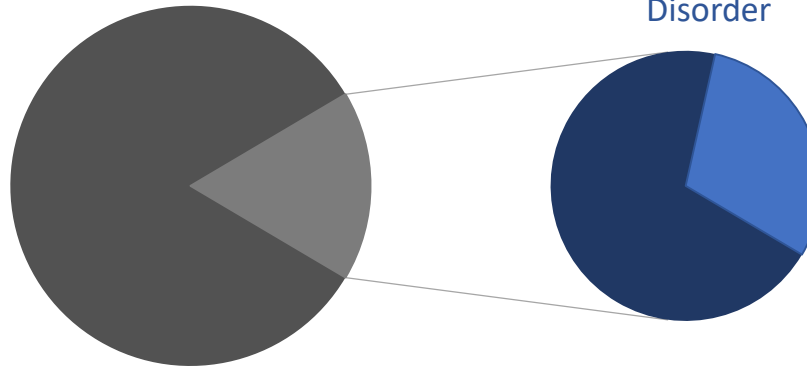
5% Serious
Mental Illness



Jail Population

17% Serious
Mental Illness

72% Co-Occurring
Substance Use
Disorder

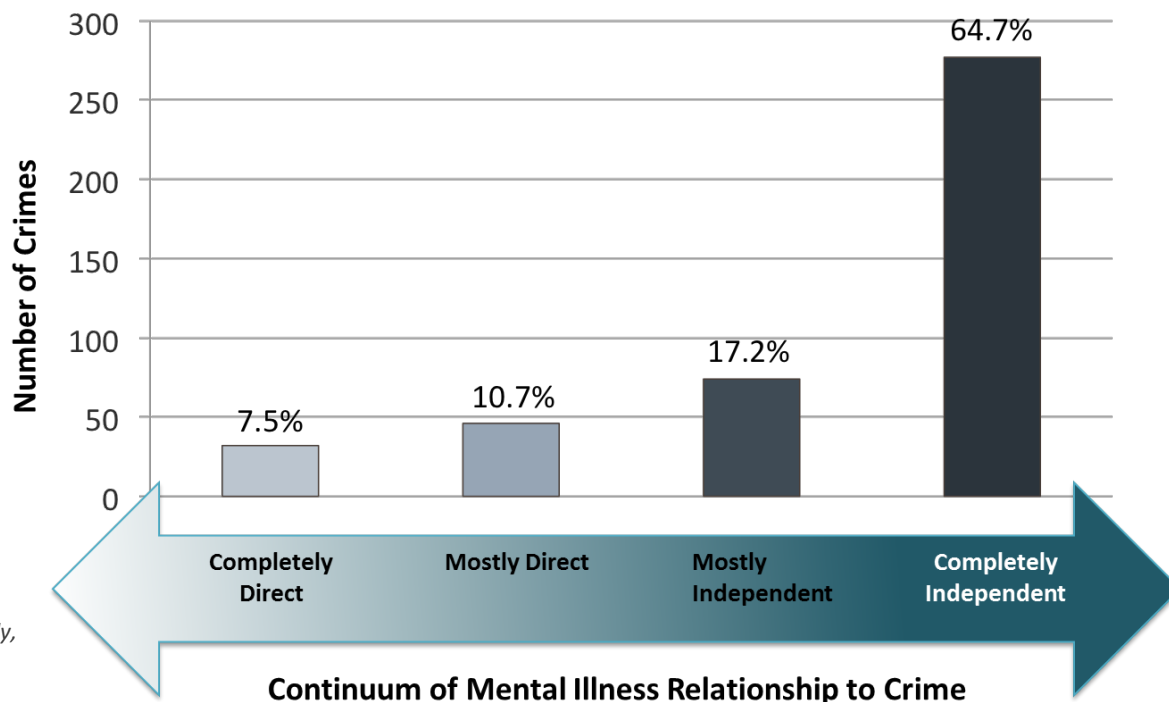


Sources: Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, *Results from the 2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health*, 2016; Steadman, HJ, Osher, FC, Robbins, PC, Case, B., and Samuels, S. Prevalence of Serious Mental Illness Among Jail Inmates, *Psychiatric Services*, 6 (60), 761-765, 2009; Abram, Karen M., and Linda A. Teplin, "Co-occurring Disorders Among Mentally Ill Jail Detainees," *American Psychologist* 46, no. 10 (1991): 1036-1045.

More Treatment Alone is Not Sufficient

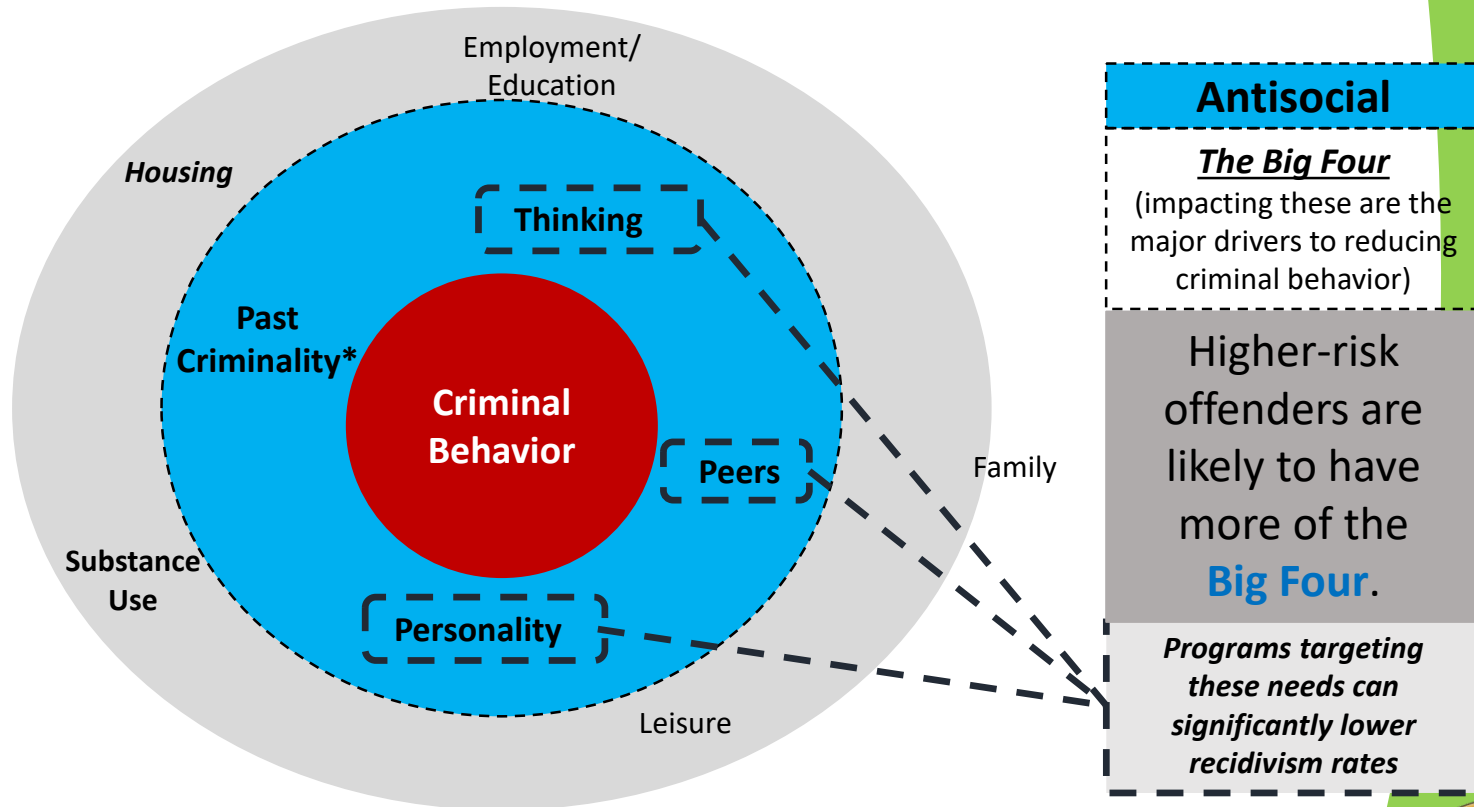
Is connecting people with needed mental health treatment enough?

Only for a few. Most will need more.



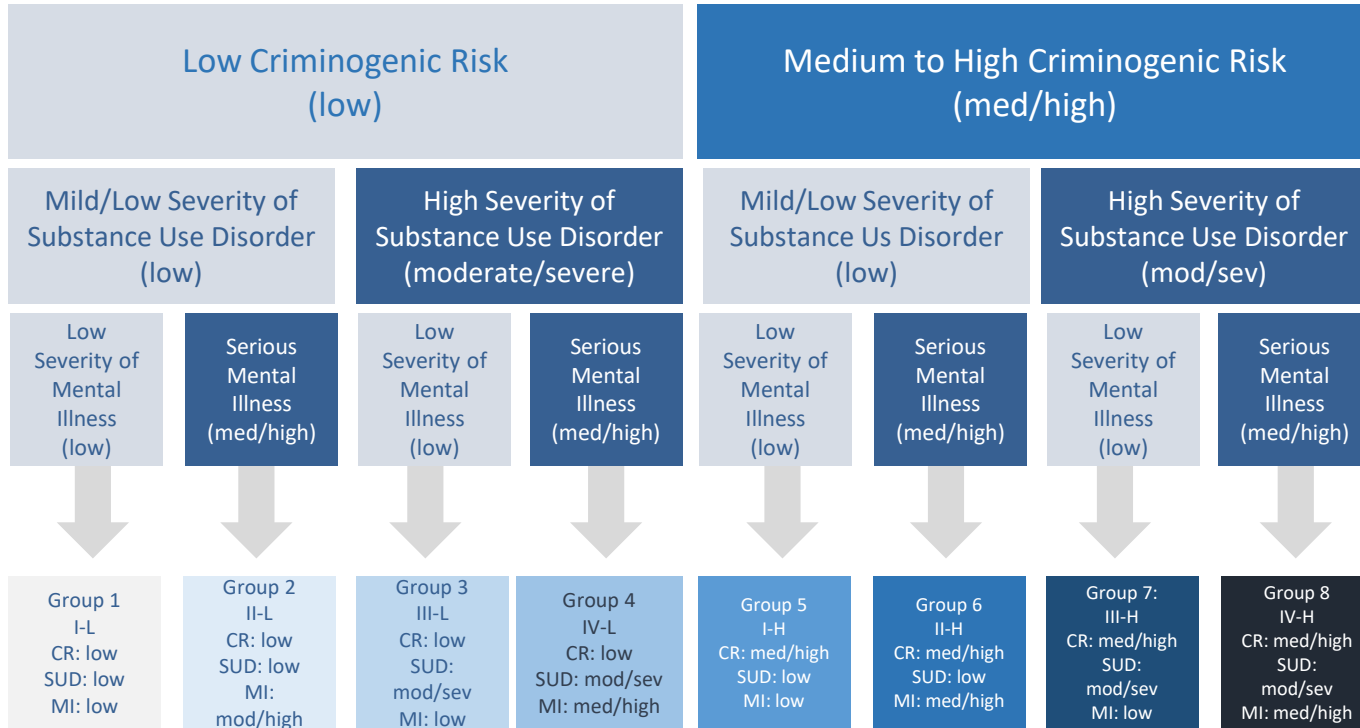
Source: Peterson, Skeem, Kennealy, Bray, and Zvonkovic, *Law and Behavioral Health*, (2014)

Addressing Criminogenic Needs



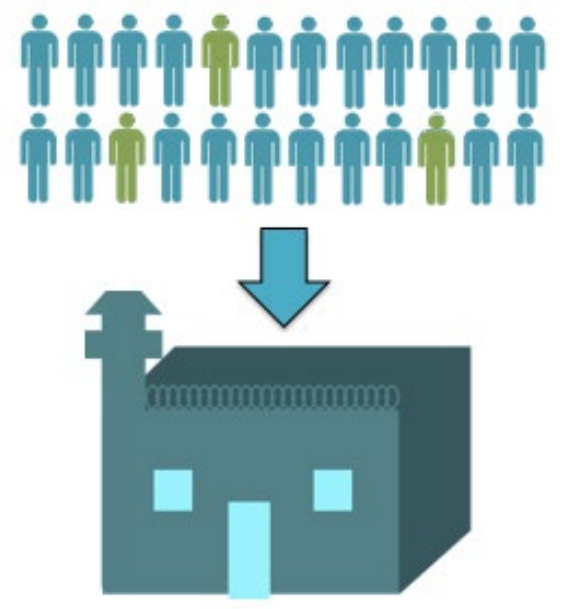
* Past criminality cannot be changed.

Criminal Justice & Behavioral Health Needs Framework



Homelessness and Criminal Justice

- Of the **11 million** people admitted to jail annually...
- About **15%** report experiencing homelessness in the year prior to arrest.¹
- Rates of homelessness are **higher** among people who have **mental illness and co-occurring substance use disorders**.



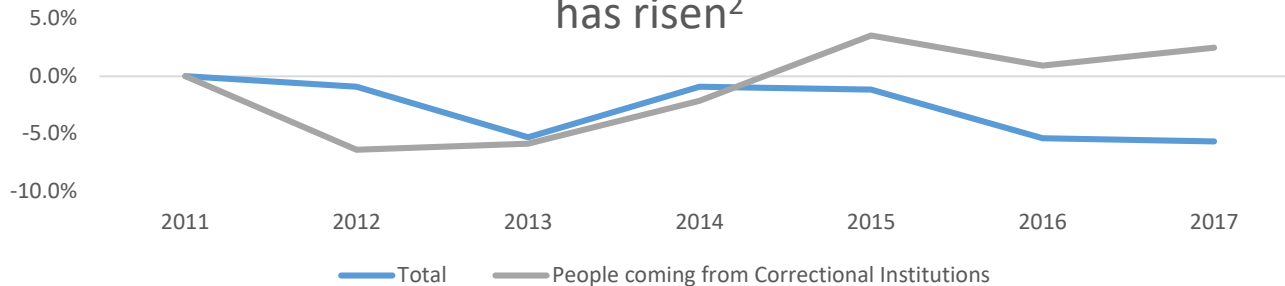
Source:

Greg A. Greenberg and Robert A. Rosenheck, "Jail Incarceration, Homelessness, and Mental Health: A National Study" (*Psychiatry Services*, 2008), available at ps.psychiatryonline.org/doi/full/10.1176/ps.2008.59.2.170.

Homelessness and Criminal Justice

Over **50,000 people** enter homeless shelters directly from prison or jail each year¹

Since 2011, the number of people experiencing homelessness has fallen, while the number people entering homelessness from correctional institutions has risen²



Source:

1. Office of Planning and Development, "The 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress: Part 2: Estimates of Homelessness in the United States," U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, October 2018, <https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/2017-AHAR-Part-2.pdf>

2. CSG Justice Center staff analysis of HUD AHAR data, 2019.



Housing Instability and Criminal Justice Involvement: A Cyclical Relationship

1. Law enforcement policies and procedures that contribute to arrest for behaviors associated with experiencing homelessness.

2. Lack of stable housing viewed as a risk factor and reduces courts' willingness to divert individuals from jail or prison.



4. Lack of stable housing upon exit from jail contributes to supervision failure, increases risk of recidivism.

3. Criminal history serves as a barrier to housing, contributing to housing instability and homelessness.





Homelessness, Mental illness, & Substance Use

Individual entrances to SF County Jail, Jan-Jun 2000



McNiell, D. et al., "Incarceration Associated with Homelessness, Mental Disorder, and Co-occurring Substance Abuse," *Psychiatric Services* 56: 840-846, 2005.

172 of 18,335 jail entrances people with co-occurring severe mental disorder and substance use disorder who are also homeless

-  Jail entrance
-  Homeless
-  Homeless & psychiatric diagnosis
-  Homeless & co-occurring severe mental and substance use disorders

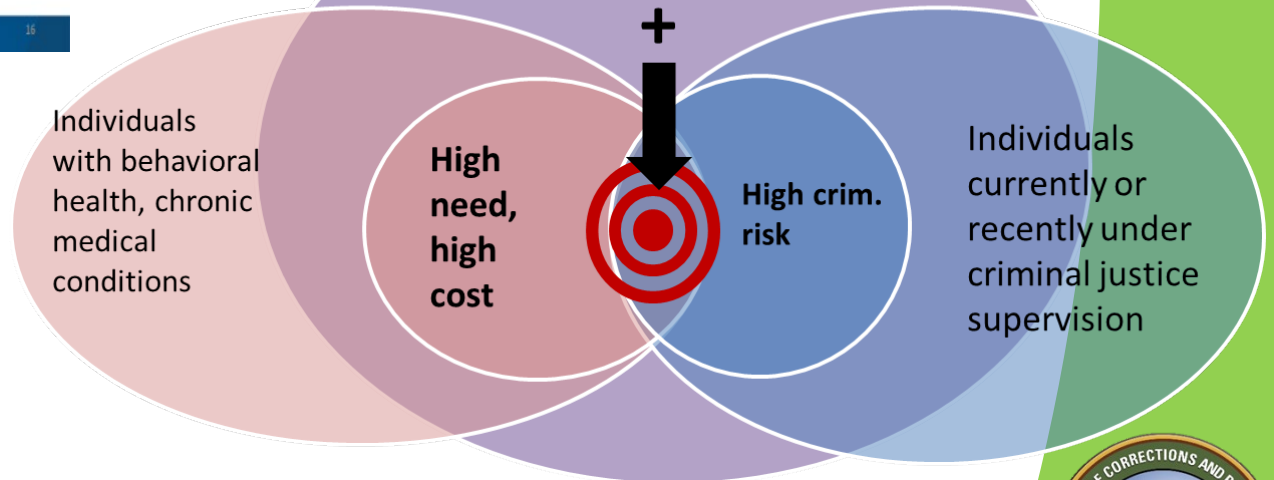


Applying the CJ/BH Framework for Complex Needs

The Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health Needs Framework

| Low Criminogenic Risk (low) | | | | Medium to High Criminogenic Risk (med/high) | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|
| Mid/Low Severity of Substance Use Disorder (low) | | High Severity of Substance Use Disorder (moderate/severe) | | Mid/Low Severity of Substance Use Disorder (low) | | High Severity of Substance Use Disorder (mod/sev) | |
| Low Severity of Mental Illness (low) | Serious Mental Illness (med/high) | Low Severity of Mental Illness (low) | Serious Mental Illness (med/high) | Low Severity of Mental Illness (low) | Serious Mental Illness (med/high) | Low Severity of Mental Illness (low) | Serious Mental Illness (med/high) |
| Group 1 I/L CR: low SUD: low MI: low | Group 2 I/L CR: low SUD: low MI: mod/high | Group 3 I/L CR: low SUD: mod/sev MI: low | Group 4 I/L CR: low SUD: mod/sev MI: mod/high | Group 5 I/H CR: med/high SUD: low MI: low | Group 6 I/H CR: med/high SUD: low MI: mod/high | Group 7 I/H CR: med/high SUD: mod/sev MI: low | Group 8 I/H CR: med/high SUD: mod/sev MI: mod/high |

Individuals with affordable housing needs



Housing First Evidence

Numerous studies have documented Housing First's success:

- 85-90% of participants achieve housing stability and avoid returns to homelessness
- Improved mental health outcomes, addiction recovery, less use of opioids and other hard drugs
- Improvements in chronic health conditions, higher survival rates for people with HIV/AIDS
- Fewer emergency department visits and inpatient hospitalizations
- Cost offsets in Medicaid and other publicly funded services
- **Reductions in recidivism to jail and prison**



Why Isn't Housing First & Criminal Justice More Connected?

1. Limited history of collaborative planning between criminal justice, behavioral health, and housing/homelessness agencies/sectors
2. Lack of coordination and referral systems connecting criminal justice intercept points and housing
3. Resources are scarce
4. Significant barriers to an array of housing opportunities for people with justice histories exist and have not been addressed adequately, including enforcement of current laws



Housing First Components: HUD SNAPS Office

| | |
|--|--|
| Adopt Client-Centered Service Methods | Client-centered services ensure that choice is available for people with complex needs, and ensures their successes in housing and programming. |
| Remove Barriers to Entry | Barriers to entry often prevent vulnerable people from accessing necessary services, eg. credit history, justice involvement history, and active substance use. |
| Engage Landlords and Property Owners | Landlords and property owners are critical partners in allowing services providers to have housing options in quickly housing vulnerable individuals and families. |
| Use Data to Quickly and Stably House Homeless Persons | Tracking data illustrates key outcome measures, such as how long people stay in the system, to improve system efficiency and quality. |

"CoC Competition Focus: Housing First," U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, August 2016, available online at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/news/coc-competition-focus-housing-first/>



Ensuring Housing First Applies to People with CJ Involvement

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Adopt Client-Centered Service Methods</p> | <p>As choice is a central component to Housing First, there are often not resources allocate to provide choices (flexible rental assistance, PSH, recovery housing) for people with criminal justice histories or other barriers limit such choices</p> |
| <p>Remove Barriers to Entry</p> | |
| <p>Engage Landlords and Property Owners</p> | |
| <p>Use Data to Quickly and Stably House Homeless Persons</p> | |

Council of State Governments Justice Center's National Inventory of the Collateral Consequences of Conviction, available online at: <https://niccc.csjusticecenter.org/>



Ensuring Housing First Applies to People with CJ involvement

| | |
|---|--|
| Adopt Client-Centered Service Methods | |
| Remove Barriers to Entry | California has at least 62 state-level statutes restricting housing, residency, or housing benefits based on criminal justice involvement. There are also common local policies and practices that often restrict people from accessing housing based on justice history. |
| Engage Landlords and Property Owners | |
| Use Data to Quickly and Stably House Homeless Persons | |

Council of State Governments Justice Center's National Inventory of the Collateral Consequences of Conviction, available online at: <https://niccc.csjusticecenter.org/>



Ensuring Housing First Applies to People with CJ involvement

| | |
|---|---|
| Adopt Client-Centered Service Methods | |
| Remove Barriers to Entry | |
| Engage Landlords and Property Owners | People with criminal justice histories have the most barriers to accessing housing. A focus on increasing adequate landlords and property owners must focus on addressing the specific needs of the justice involved population. |
| Use Data to Quickly and Stably House Homeless Persons | |

Ensuring Housing First applies to people with CJ involvement

| | |
|--|--|
| Adopt Client-Centered Service Methods | |
| Remove Barriers to Entry | |
| Engage Landlords and Property Owners | |
| Use Data to Quickly and Stably House Homeless Persons | Agencies are not uniformly sharing data related to justice involvement, SMI, and homelessness, leading to a lack of full picture of the overall problem and interaction of these systems. |

Stories of Lived Experience and Lessons Learned from the Field



Strategies to Impact Challenges & Opportunities

HCFC can inform policymakers about the unique challenges of obtaining safe, affordable and permanent housing for individuals with justice involvement

HCFC can identify specific ways to address these barriers as part of developing the statewide strategic plan to end homelessness

HCFC can provide training and technical assistance to local CoCs and other housing service providers about the needs and strategies most effective with justice involved populations



Strategies to Impact Challenges & Opportunities

HCFC can report on how the HEAP funds are impacting individuals who are justice-involved and work to use statewide data to inform decision-making

CCJBH can work with the HCFC to ensure that required conditions of parole and probation, as well as court-ordered treatment, can co-exists with Housing First requirements and best practices.

HCFC can identify and disseminate best practices in the application of CES with criminal justice referral entities.

HCFC can encourage the inclusion of justice status as part of the Vulnerability Index Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool



Discussion and Q and A

