



Prevention & Rapid-Rehousing Interventions



- Homelessness affecting nearly every community across the country.
- Continuum of Care (CoC) = local agency designated by HUD to lead the system
- US Departments of Housing & Urban Development, Veterans Administration, Labor are coordinated by the US Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) = “Federal Partners”

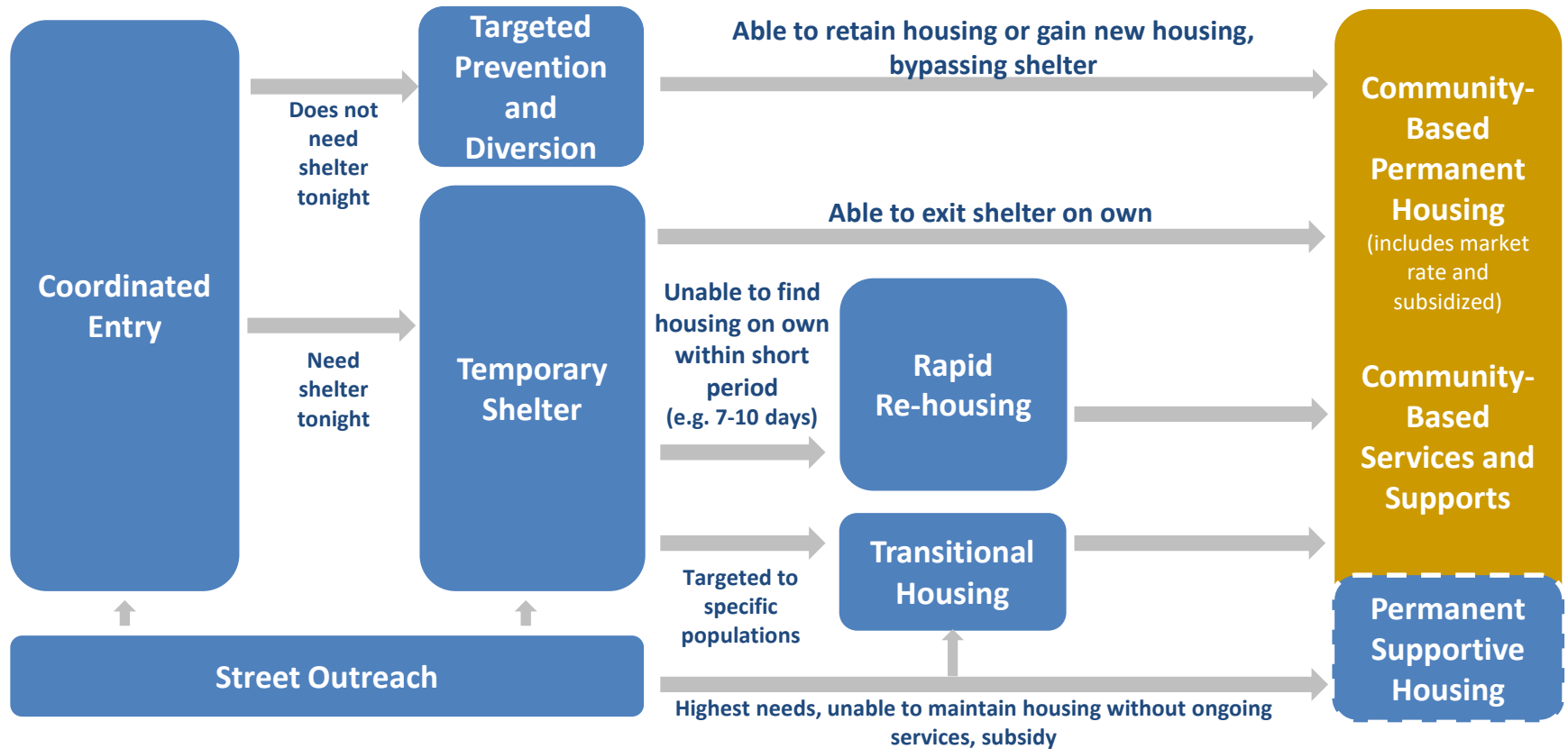


System Components:

- Coordinated Entry
- Street Outreach
- Targeted Prevention & Diversion
- Temporary Shelter
- Rapid Re-housing
- Transitional Housing
- Community Based Permanent Housing
- Permanent Supportive Housing

HOMELESS CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM

General Components & Client Flow





Two Tasks:

- Targeting: identify people at highest risk for becoming homeless
- Services: help them avoid that fate (primary prevention)

***Bad targeting is often confused
with successful services.***



Targeting for Secondary Prevention:

- Most people are only briefly homeless
- The issue becomes identifying those likely to have longer stay (or repeated stays)
 - Single individuals: long-term and episodic users have more mental health and substance issues.
 - Families: Episodic, but NOT long-term, users have more involvement with other systems.



Targeted Prevention/Diversion

- SVdP USA is heavily involved in this area – however, often not connected to the overall system.
- Prevention = inquirer has a place to stay – but, it is unstable. They can sleep there tonight as long as it is safe.
- Diversion = inquirer has exhausted all places to stay - shelter is eminent.



Targeted Prevention/Diversion

- Resources used are very similar in each intervention: (rent, utility assistance, food support, etc.)
- However, in diversion mediation skills are required in an effort to restore (or find) a placement other than shelter.

Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)
ends homelessness for
families and individuals.

RRH HELPS



FIND HOUSING

Help people quickly find housing within one month or less.

PAY FOR HOUSING

Help people pay for housing short term; longer-term help an option.

STAY IN HOUSING

Help access services so people can stay in housing.

The **Core Components** of Rapid Re-Housing help people **find** housing fast, **pay** for housing, and **stay** in housing.

FIND HOUSING

Help people quickly find housing within one month or less.

PAY FOR HOUSING

Help people pay for housing short term; longer-term help an option.

STAY IN HOUSING

Help access services so people can stay in housing.



FIND FAST HOUSING IDENTIFICATION



Build relationships with landlords to have access to as many housing units as possible.



Find and secure housing as quickly as possible after a person or family becomes homeless.



Limit the time a family or individual spends homeless. Move people into housing within **30 days or less**.

FIND HOUSING

Help people quickly find housing within one month or less.

PAY FOR HOUSING

Help people pay for housing short term; longer-term help an option.

STAY IN HOUSING

Help access services so people can stay in housing.



HELP PAY RENT AND MOVE-IN ASSISTANCE



Pay for security deposits, move-in expenses...

... and/or rent and utilities.

Length of assistance varies, but often **4 to 6 months**.

FIND HOUSING

Help people quickly find housing within one month or less.

PAY FOR HOUSING

Help people pay for housing short term; longer-term help an option.

STAY IN HOUSING

Help access services so people can stay in housing.



HELP STAY RAPID RE-HOUSING CASE MANAGEMENT AND SERVICES

Connect families and individuals to services and supports in the community.

Help resolve issues that may threaten housing stability, including conflicts with landlords.



What Is Rapid Re-Housing?

- **Rapid:** (Adj.) Moving, acting, or occurring at great speed
- **Re-Housing:** (Verb) Provide (someone) with new housing
- **Rapid Re-Housing:** An intervention designed to help individuals and families to quickly exit homelessness and return to permanent housing

HEARTH Act

GOAL:

HEARTH Act – 30 days or less from homelessness into permanent housing

REALITY:

Housing location and placement process should begin as soon as person has been assessed and prevention and diversion have been eliminated

Things to Keep in Mind

- Rapid re-housing is not a program, it is a critical system intervention to end homelessness
- Households experiencing homelessness are not significantly different than other poor families
- Majority experience homelessness due to a financial or other crisis
- Prolonged exposure to homelessness has a significant negative impact on adults and children

Why Rapid Re-Housing? The Results

- Reduced length of shelter stays frees up crisis beds for others in need
- Reduces the negative impacts of long-term homelessness
- Lower cost, better results than TH or ES

**HOUSED PEOPLE
ARE NOT HOMELESS**

Why try rapid re-housing first?

- Research has found ***no characteristic*** (of clients or of the programs assisting them) that predicts who will succeed or return to homelessness
- The majority of persons who exit homelessness do not return, regardless of the type of assistance provided
- No one knows how to assess resiliency
- Progressive Engagement: RRH programs are flexible and individualized--offering longer or more intensive assistance when needed

Core Components of Rapid Re-Housing

Housing Identification

- Recruit landlords

Rent and Move-In
Assistance (Financial)

- Address potential barriers to landlord participation such as concern about short term nature of rental assistance and tenant qualifications

Rapid Re-Housing Case
Management and Services

- Assist households to find and secure appropriate rental housing.

Core Components of Rapid Re-Housing

Housing Identification

Rent and Move-In Assistance (Financial)

Rapid Re-Housing Case Management and Services

- Provide assistance to cover move-in costs, deposits, and the rental and/or utility assistance (typically six months or less) necessary to allow individuals and families to move immediately out of homelessness and to stabilize in permanent housing.

Core Components of Rapid Re-Housing

Housing Identification

- Help households find permanent housing and negotiate lease

Rent and Move-In Assistance (Financial)

- Help resolve issues that impede access to housing

Rapid Re-Housing Case Management and Services

- Provide time-limited services that help households stabilize in housing
- Be available to help resolve crises
- Connect households to resources to help them achieve short and long-term goals
- Services are client-directed and voluntary

Core Components of Rapid Re-Housing

- **Core services are performed “en vivo” (in home) = Vincentian “home visit” model**
- **Level of success directly relational to ability to ‘care’ using progressive case management**
- **Respect/Dignity of client is critical**



Strengthen and support Councils in providing housing and services to those without shelter

OBJECTIVES

5-3.1	Reinstate the “Housing Task Force” at the national level
5-3.2	Urge all Councils and Conferences to become familiar with current homeless prevention and diversion services of the local continuum of care system
5-3.3	Survey Councils, share Best Practices, define and measure how we provide housing and services



- Connect current Prevention/Diversion type services to local CoC
- Cease paying for emergency shelter (hotels) without services – it only makes the problem worse
- Support CoC housing placements (with furniture, food vouchers, home visits)



- Advocate Locally for “Housing First”
 - cease ‘fixing people first’ mentality/programs
 - urge current SVdP service providers to participate
- Become actively involved in your local CoC
- Consider embarking in Rapid Rehousing intervention
- Link SVdP prison re-entry programs to housing initiatives