Planning Committee

CENTRAL FLORIDA
COMMISSION ON HOMELESSNESS

HOMELESS SERVICES NETWORK
of Central Florida

October 24nd 2019

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Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- True Colors Grand Challenge
- Unsheltered Homeless Report
- Goals for New 2020 Strategic Priorities
- Announcements

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New to HSN Team

L. Rashad Haynes

▶ CoC Coordinator

▶ *Pronouns: he/him/his*

Chris Fowler

▶ CoC Program Assistant

▶ *Pronouns: he/him/his*

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New HSN Team Members

Tamara MacKroy

▶ Grants Specialist

▶ *Pronouns: she/her/hers*

Natalie Joseph

▶ CES Data and Reports Specialist

▶ *Pronouns: she/her*

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National Runaway Prevention Month

▶ **Orlando is competing against 5 other communities to reduce LGBTQ Youth Homelessness** https://truecolorsunited.org/our-work/training-education/true-colors-challenges/

▶ **What is it:** 30-day challenge to train communities across the country on best practices serving lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning youth experiencing homelessness.

▶ **Why participate:** When service providers are inclusive and affirming of LGBTQ youth, young people are more likely to get the support they need. This training is designed for anybody who works for an organization that interacts with youth because every interaction can either create safety or break trust. This is a quick and effective way to train anyone interacting with a client to honor LGBTQ identities.

▶ **Who should participate:** LGBTQ+ organizations, homeless agencies, shelters, community centers, direct service providers, foster care agencies, juvenile justice organizations, library workers, anyone who encounters youth

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The Training Details

About the training:

▶ Lauches November 1 and runs through midnight on November 30th

▶ The training is an online course (app option also available)

▶ Curriculum = 101 on LGBTQ+ homelessness (up to age 24)

▶ Different forms of content - video, text, graphics

▶ Length of time to complete ranges from 20-minutes to no more than 2 hours (depending on the user)

▶ Certificate available to download and print, upon completion

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What YOU need to do to participate:

- ▶ 1. Choose a Site Lead who while shepherd the process over the course of the month
- ▶ 2. Set goal for your organization - how many people you would consider a "success" that takes the training
- ▶ 3. Fill out registration form by October 25th for your organization/agency truecolorsunited.org/2019challenge
- ▶ 4. Join the webinar on October 28th at 3pm (Site Lead will receive a link upon registration)
- ▶ 5. Toolkits with messaging, flyers, graphics, social media posts, etc are being prepared and will be shared with you after the webinar

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Unsheltered Homeless Study: California Policy Lab

Health Conditions Among Unsheltered Adults in the U.S.

L. Rashad Haynes, CoC Coordinator

Homeless Services Network

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Health Conditions of Unsheltered Adults

▶ Little is known about the differences between sheltered and unsheltered persons

▶ Those that are unsheltered continue to experience major and worsening health conditions while homeless

▶ Unsheltered individuals with the longest experiences of homelessness, most significant health conditions, and greatest vulnerabilities are not accessing and being served by shelters

▶ Instead, those individuals are regularly engaged by police and emergency services

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Findings

▶ Unsheltered people, especially women, report greater health challenges, higher rates of experiences with violence and trauma, and longer lengths of homelessness than sheltered people

▶ Higher rates of health conditions and vulnerability for unsheltered individuals began before the loss of housing, and are seen early in their experiences of homelessness

▶ Raises questions about whether emergency shelters are serving individuals with high heath needs when they initially become homeless.

FIGURE 1. Distribution and mean VI-SPDAT score by shelter status
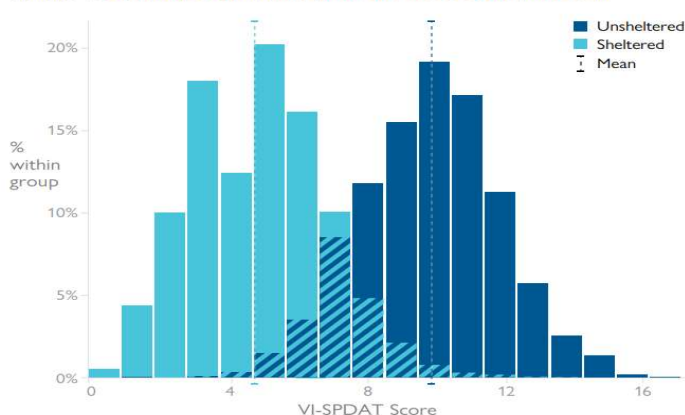
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Statistics and Figures

- Unsheltered individuals were four (4) times as likely to report that physical health conditions had contributed to a loss of housing as sheltered people

- Unsheltered individuals were three (3) times as likely to report mental health conditions contributed to loss of housing

- Those individuals unsheltered were more than eight (8) times as likely to report that the use of drugs or alcohol had contributed to a loss of housing

- 50% of unsheltered individuals report that they have difficulty taking care of basic needs vs. 3% of sheltered individuals who report to share the same difficulty.

FIGURE 4. Physical health, mental health, substance abuse, and trimorbidity by shelter status[11]
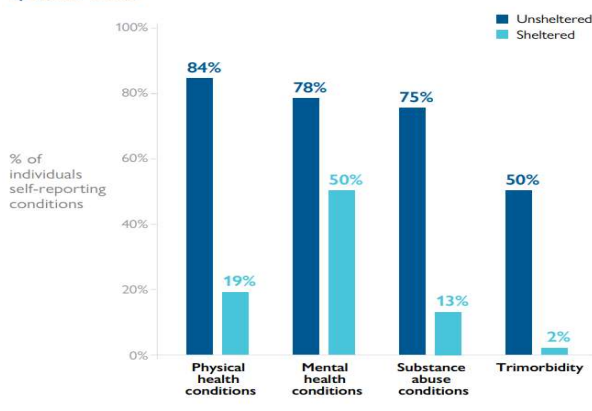
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Unsheltered individuals lack access to ES but not Police/Jails/ER

- Individuals who have experienced homelessness the longest are not accessing emergency shelters

- Unsheltered individuals reported lengths of time since last stably housed that were on average more than six (6) times longer than sheltered individuals (2,632 days vs. 410 days)—and unsheltered women reported an average of 5,855 days since they last had stable housing.

- Unsheltered homeless report 10x the number of Police contacts

FIGURE 6. Police contacts, jail spells, emergency room visits, and ambulance rides in previous six months by shelter status[13]
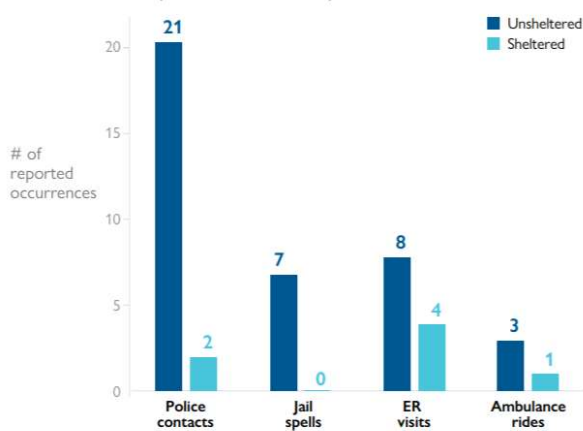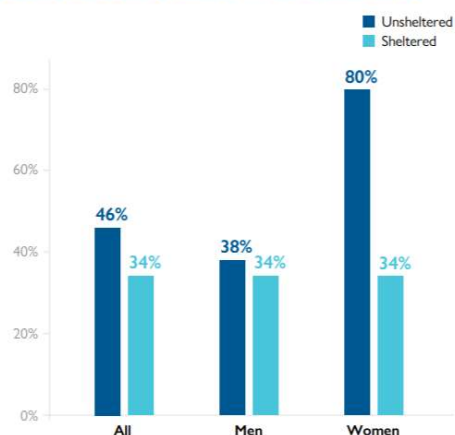

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Unsheltered Women have experienced trauma as the cause of homelessness at a unbelievable rate.

▶ Significant portions of both unsheltered (46%) and sheltered people (34%) reported that experiences of abuse and/or trauma had caused their current spell of homelessness. Unsheltered women however reported abuse and/or trauma as the cause of their homelessness at much higher rates (80%) than either unsheltered men (38%) or sheltered women (34%).

FIGURE 3. Unsheltered and sheltered adults who experienced trauma[10]

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Review CoC Plan

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Recommended Additions to Plan

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Priority #1 Championing Housing First

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Priority #2 Partner—mobilize tri-county regional collaboration

▶ Advance efforts to end youth homelessness

▶ Develop community-wide institutional discharge standards

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Priority #3 Grow—sustain and grow housing stabilization system

▶ Build momentum behind Move-On strategy

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Priority #4 Create—new strategies for robust "front door" to crisis response system.

▶ Launch CoC Lived Experience Council—integrate into planning work

▶ Advance awareness of racial disparities within homeless response system

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Priority #5 Support—strategies for at-risk populations

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Priority #6 Increase—resources to achieve goals

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Announcements

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Save the Date: January 22nd 2020

PIT Steering Committee

October 25th

1:00pm

Homeless Service Network Conference Room

4065 LB McLeod Blvd. Orlando

CoC PIT Count Steering Committee

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
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CoC Planning Committee

NOTES

Introductions

National Runaway Prevention Month

Unsheltered Homeless Study:

- Unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness are much more vulnerable than sheltered
- Persons unsheltered lack access to emergency shelters and make frequent contact w/ emergency services (police/ambulances)
- 80% of unsheltered women reported that trauma led to their homelessness
- Campaign to allow case managers within the CoC to manage individuals who have DV in their past, not just those who are fleeing
- Shelters are not equipped to deal with unsheltered individuals
- Differences in people who seek shelter and who are unsheltered
- Shelters are not an access point for trimorbid individuals
- More training that addresses trauma informed case management
- How equipped are our programs to handle trimorbid people?
- Meeting homeless individuals experiencing DV trauma and trimorbidity where they're at (street outreach)
- Lowering barriers in emergency shelters
- Coming up with strategies to treat the 80% of women who have experienced trauma and are unsheltered
- Rates for men are probably underreported
- Do we have the resources to support those experiencing trauma in our housing programs

Central Florida Commission on Homelessness

- Managing board with still meet HUD requirements
- Intellectual property given to the CoC Board
- HSN will be identifying what staffing needs to be in place
- Comments on bylaws are welcome (before Nov. 8th)
- Getting policy folks closer to the boots on the ground
- CoC will be called "Commission on Homelessness"
- Will take effect within the next couple of months

Introduction to the CoC Plan

- How to set goals and measure them
- Priority 1
  - Championing housing first
- Priority 2
  - Advance effort to end youth homelessness
    - YAS
  - Develop community wide institutional discharge standards
- Priority 3
  - Build momentum behind Move-On strategy
    - Preparing people to move on from PSH
    - CoC Peer support worker to handle Move-On clients
    - Creating a proposal for funding and timeline
    - Roughly 30% of those in PSH may be eligible
- Priority 4
  - Launch Lived Experience council
  - Racial disparity awareness
- Priority 5
  - Support strategies for at-risk populations
  -
- Priority 6
  - Increase resources to achieve goals

Lived Experience:

  - Fully represented council
    - Matching the population
  - Would be a part of the policy making decisions
  - Funding for the council and members of the council

Move-On:

  - Learning how to find destinations
  - Developing a budget plan (looking at cost and savings)
  - Developing support services
  - Partnering with local housing authority
  - Pilot strategy

Institutional Discharge:

  - w/ Jails and Hospitals, bringing everyone to the table
  - Discharge planning including documenting homeless

- o Capitalize on savings to hospitals and jails
- o How to implement and accommodate ROIs

Racial Disparity:

- o Trend analysis, identifying why disparity is taking place
- o Communication- how does our community of agencies look like and how does it impact our serving