**Goals**

1. **Consider** common ground between Housing First and supervision requirements for formerly incarcerated people.

2. **Explore** how to provide Housing First programs to formerly incarcerated people.

3. **Learn** from peers about how to work across systems to serve formerly incarcerated people.
Housing First, supervision, and the common ground between them
Benefits of Housing First

• Evidence-based
  • Houses people faster
  • Keeps more people stably housed

• Improves health outcomes

• Decreases use of services

• Saves money for participants, providers, and communities
Impacts of the criminal legal system (CLS)

• If people don’t have stable housing, courts are less likely to:
  • Divert them from jail/prison
  • Grant them bail
  • Grant them parole

• 5 million formerly incarcerated people\(^1\)
  • 600,000 people return to communities from prison every year
  • Carceral trauma: physical injury, emotional distress, and/or psychological damage from the severe stress of incarceration

What happens when people return to communities?

**Community Supervision**: a person lives in the community under supervision of a parole or probation department.

- **Parole**: conditional release from incarceration after serving a portion of a jail sentence.
- **Probation**: a sentence served in the community in place of or following a jail sentence.
What happens when people return to communities?

• Common supervision conditions:
  • Drug testing and/or mandated treatment programs
  • Restrictions on movement and/or location monitoring
  • Restrictions on housing/living arrangements
  • Regular meetings with supervision officers
  • Supervision officers can contact employer

• Much more likely to have violations and re-arrest without stable housing
Housing First and the CLS

- Housing First reduces contact with the CLS
  - Reduces arrests\(^1\)
  - Reduces nights in jail\(^1\)
  - Reduces municipal citations\(^2\)

- Housing First does not increase drug and alcohol use\(^3\)

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\(^2\)Housing First Milwaukee.
\(^3\)Deborah K. Padgett et al., *Housing First Services for People Who Are Homeless with Co-occurring Serious Mental Illness and Substance Abuse*, 16:1 Research on Social Work Practice 74 (2006).
Common ground between Housing First and supervision

Housing First
- autonomy
- choice
- Individual control

Supervision
- safety
- re-integration in community
- cooperation

Intersection:
- prevent recidivism
- Government control
- surveillance
- restrictions

Individual control

Housing First

Supervision

Homebase
Why should we care?
Who benefits most from Housing First?

- People with complex needs
- People turned away from other options
- People least likely to be able to obtain housing/services on their own

Many formerly incarcerated people fit this profile

There’s enormous opportunity to help by providing Housing First programs for these populations
Homelessness and incarceration are interrelated issues

**Homelessness is a risk factor for incarceration**

- Unsheltered people are **10 times more likely** to have police contact than sheltered people\(^1\)
- **15%** of formerly incarcerated people experience homelessness in the year before their incarceration\(^2\)

**Criminal history is a barrier to housing**

- People who have been incarcerated once are **7 times more likely** to experience homelessness than the general population\(^3\)
- People who have been incarcerated more than once are **13 times more likely** to experience homelessness than the general population\(^3\)

Problems are even more extreme for populations that are already vulnerable (women, people of color, LGBTQIA)

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\(^1\) Health Conditions among Unsheltered Adults in the US (2019).

\(^2\) Jail Incarceration, Homelessness, and Mental Health: A National Study (2008).

\(^3\) National Former Prisoner Survey (2008).
Homelessness and incarceration create a cycle

Cross-system problems require cross-system solutions

- Housing Instability and/or Homelessness
- Criminal History Becomes a Barrier to Housing
- Criminalization of Homelessness
- Incarceration
How can we use this common ground?

- Homebase’s Criminal Legal System Initiative
  - Cross-sector workshops and fostering partnerships
  - Visioning, planning, troubleshooting, and implementation
  - Curated tools and resources
  - Peer-to-peer learning and community building

- Spent 6 months researching organizations who are addressing the issue from multiple angles with creative solutions
  - Interviewed dozens of staff and participants

- Valuable to assess what effective programs have done and learned
Community Highlights

Housing First programs that work with people under supervision
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>San Diego, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population served</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How it started</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>How it works</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Outcomes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lessons Learned</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Community Care Coordination Program (C3)**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>People with severe mental illness exiting local jails without stable housing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population served</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How it started</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Outcomes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lessons Learned</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community Care Coordination Program (C3)

Location

Population served

How it started

How it works

Outcomes

Lessons Learned

- Partnership between:
  - Sheriff’s Department
  - Probation Department
  - Public Defender’s Office
  - District Attorney’s Office
  - City Attorney’s Office
  - Representatives of the County of San Diego’s Public Safety Group
Community Care Coordination Program (C3)

**Location**
- Uses in-reach to build relationships with participants and CLS entities
- Referrals are made through Sheriff’s discharge planners and Public Defender’s mental health clinicians
- Staff are always present at hearings, time of release, meetings with providers, medical appointments, and supervision check-ins

**Population served**

**How it started**

**How it works**
- 12 months of permanent housing and supportive services immediately upon release
  - option for extension to ensure connection to services and appropriate level of care

**Outcomes**

**Lessons Learned**
Community Care Coordination Program (C3)

Outcomes

- 91% of participants experienced reduced contact with CLS compared to their previous 12 months
- 78% reduction in number of days participants spend in custody

Lessons Learned
Community Care Coordination Program (C3)

- **Location**
  - Get all stakeholders at the table
  - Emphasize shared goals across partner entities
  - Showing up reliably and consistently builds trust
    - Better relationships with participants
  - Relationships with individual supervision officers facilitates better advocacy
  - CLS partners make decisions knowing the program will provide quality support

- **Population served**

- **How it started**

- **How it works**

- **Outcomes**

- **Lessons Learned**

- **Homebase**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Santa Rosa, CA</th>
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<tr>
<td>Population served</td>
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<tr>
<td>How it started</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>How it works</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outcomes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lessons Learned</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Interfaith Shelter Network

Lessons Learned

Outcomes

How it works

How it started

Population served

Location

People who have been incarcerated in a California state prison.
Interfaith Shelter Network

- Location
  - Transitional housing and services to people experiencing homelessness

- Population served
  - Recognized the intersection between homelessness and incarceration and started serving people who have been incarcerated

- How it started

- How it works

- Outcomes

- Lessons Learned
Interfaith Shelter Network

Location

Population served

How it started

How it works

Outcomes

Lessons Learned

• Rapid Rehousing: promote the healing needed after incarceration
  • Having enough time in the program is key
  • Housing for 12 months with free psychotherapy and landlord liaison support for life

• Transitional Housing: Partnership with probation
  • Probation
  • Sex offense registry
  • Local drug court
  • People pre-trial with serious mental illness
Interfaith Shelter Network

Location

Population served

How it started

How it works

Outcomes

Lessons Learned

- Rapid Rehousing has served 190 households since opening in 2019

- Transitional Housing serves 700-900 people per year across 7 locations
Interfaith Shelter Network

**Location**

- Spend time fostering cross-system partnerships
  - IFSN and probation attend each other’s meetings

**Population served**

- Build relationships with landlords and public housing authorities

**How it started**

- Have a no secrets policy with participants
  - Foster open communication

**How it works**

- Let participants decide where they want to conduct screenings required for supervision
- Facilitate reporting if participants violate supervision requirements

**Outcomes**

**Lessons Learned**

- Don’t remove anyone from the program
Home Free

Location

Population served

How it started

How it works

Outcomes

Lessons Learned

San Francisco, CA
Home Free

Female survivors of domestic violence who have served long prison sentences in California state prison for being criminalized for survival actions
Home Free

Location

Population served

How it started

How it works

Outcomes

Lessons Learned

- 2012 state law allowed parole board to consider the role of domestic violence in a person’s commission of crimes

- Many survivors were released after 10+ years of incarceration and needed support

- Recognized the need for housing that isn’t focused on substance use disorders
  - Not everyone needs it
  - Can feel carceral and trigger survivors
Home Free

Location

Population served

How it started

How it works

Outcomes

Lessons Learned

• Focus is on safe, non-carceral, healing housing
  • Individualized plans and case management
  • Housing is free with no time limit

• Referrals through in-reach and word-of-mouth

• Clear delineation of roles between program staff and supervision
  • Staff are not enforcement officers
  • Establishes trust with participants
Home Free

Location

Population served

How it started

How it works

Outcomes

Lessons Learned

• Design and construction have received national recognition

• Plans to open a location in Los Angeles
Home Free

Location

• Be aware of the landscape
  • Laws can change and create new populations that need care
  • What needs are not being met elsewhere?

Population served

• Populations have unique needs – lead with trauma-informed care

How it started

• Negotiate with supervision entities to make sure program staff will not administer or manage supervision requirements

How it works

• Need a clear understanding between staff, supervision, and participants

Outcomes

Lessons Learned
Key Lessons Learned
Get all stakeholders at the table

- During program design, implementation, and evaluation
- Establish a cross-system partners workgroup to streamline communication and cooperation
- Emphasize shared goals
Build cross-system relationships

- Consistently showing up builds trust with CLS entities and those who run them
- Long-term engagement with housing and service providers
- Knowledge building: look for opportunities for cross-system information exchange like meetings, conferences, trainings, and convenings
Clearly communicate roles to supervision

- Who is responsible for what?

- Be flexible and creative – solutions may differ for organizations based on their relationships and populations served

- Participants can see the program is committed to their safety, autonomy, and dignity
Commit to understanding carceral trauma

- Lead with trauma-informed care
  - Give staff cultural responsiveness training to address needs of formerly incarcerated people
  - Consider the barriers to housing created by carceral trauma
  - Hire staff with lived experience of incarceration

- Give participants enough time in your program to support healing

- Have a no secrets policy with participants
We believe that everyone has the potential to serve these populations effectively.
THANK YOU!

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Contact us:  clsi@homebaseccc.org
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