

HOMELESS & PRECARIOUSLY HOUSED APPROACH

5 THINGS TO KNOW

1

COMPLEXITY OF HOMELESSNESS AND PRECARIOUS HOUSING:

Homelessness and precarious housing involve interrelated challenges, including addiction and mental health issues. Addressing these requires comprehensive solutions like Housing First programs, which provide stable housing along with mental health and addiction support (Palepu et al., 2013).

2

IMPORTANCE OF INDIVIDUALIZED SUPPORT:

Tailored support that includes access to shelter, healthcare, mental health services, substance abuse treatment, and job training is crucial for effectively assisting homeless individuals (Kertesz et al., 2009).

3

NEED FOR TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE:

Providing a supportive environment that avoids re-traumatization is essential. This involves understanding the trauma history of homeless individuals and ensuring services are sensitive to their needs (Bonner et al., 2019).

4

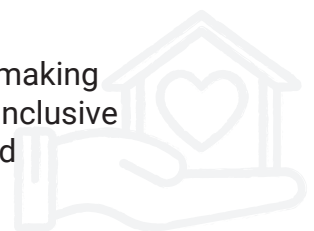
POLICY AND SYSTEM CHANGES:

Effective policies must focus on early intervention and prevention, addressing structural causes of homelessness, considering racial disparities, and providing necessary funding. Collaboration between service providers, community organizations, and government agencies is vital (O'Regan, 2021).

5

EMPOWERMENT AND ADVOCACY:

Involving individuals with lived experiences of homelessness in decision-making processes and advocating for their rights can lead to more effective and inclusive solutions. Empowering these individuals helps ensure that their needs and insights are incorporated into policies and programs (Kloos et al., 2012).



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5 THINGS TO DO

1

IMPLEMENT WRAP-AROUND SUPPORT PROGRAMS:

Develop and expand programs that offer comprehensive, individualized support for homeless individuals, addressing housing, healthcare, mental health, addiction treatment, and job training needs (Bhui et al., 2015).

2

ADOPT AND EXPAND HOUSING FIRST INITIATIVES:

Prioritize safe and stable housing through Housing First models, which provide immediate housing access without preconditions, along with necessary support services to maintain stability (Tsemberis et al., 2004).

3

PROMOTE TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE PRACTICES:

Train service providers and organizations to adopt trauma-informed care practices, ensuring that services are sensitive to the trauma histories of homeless individuals and designed to avoid re-traumatization (Bonner et al., 2019).

4

ADVOCATE FOR POLICY AND SYSTEMIC CHANGES:

Work with policymakers and community leaders to implement early intervention strategies, increase funding for homelessness prevention, and address structural causes of homelessness. Advocate for inclusive policies that consider the diverse needs of homeless populations (National Coalition for the Homeless, 2021).

5

ENHANCE PEER-TO-PEER SUPPORT AND INVOLVEMENT:

Utilize peer-to-peer support systems by involving people with lived experience (PWLE) in peer intake processes and data collection. This approach not only helps gather crucial insights but also empowers PWLE individuals by involving them in decision-making process.



VOICES OF LIVED EXPERIENCE
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