



Pathways' HOUSING FIRST

5 PRINCIPLES IN PROGRAM OPERATION

CLIENT'S PERSPECTIVE: HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE INDIVIDUALS SERVED BY THIS PROGRAM?

Individuals who are tired

Some are angry and fed up

Individuals who are not well off

Some are struggling with drugs or mental health issues

Some are strong willed, survivors

People who have been through a lot

GOALS OF HOUSING FIRST PROGRAM

- 1) Ensure that consumer preferences drive the provision of all services including housing and support services
- 2) Provide immediate access to permanent housing *and* supports for people with serious mental and substance use disorders, and other complex problems
- 3) Improve consumers' quality of life; support recovery and community integration

Principle 1. CHOICE

Neighborhoods are LIMITED TO affordable areas



How much choice
is real Choice?





CHOICE IN HOUSING:

Most choose own apartment rented from community landlords

- Integrated into the community (reduces stigma)
- Allows for individualized planning and progress
- Rapid start up
- Relocation without service disruption
- Puts rental market within reach

Steps to Preparing Apartments for Consumer

After apartment selection process:


1. Prepare checklist that addresses everything needed to make the apartment “move-in” ready
2. Furnish the apartment- must include a phone and TV
3. Participants receive an initial ‘starter kit’, with dishes, pots, pans, shower curtains, etc.
4. Purchase a week’s worth of groceries
5. Participant and team are given copies of keys- as long as the person agrees
6. Intake coordinator and designated housing staff negotiate use and occupancy agreement (in addition to standard lease, this explains that team will visit once a week, rent payment, etc.)





Principle 2.

Separation of Housing and Treatment

- Ensures access to housing without treatment requirements (i.e., sobriety or psychiatric treatment)
 - Ensures continuity of care and support through disruptions in housing (relocations, hospitalizations, incarcerations)
 - Strives for a no discharge policy
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HOUSING DOMAIN

- Agree to terms of standard lease
- Apartment selection and set up
- Lease signing, security, furnishing
- Rent payments and property management

SERVICES DOMAIN

- Benefits, entitlements, and case management
- Recovery goals, family connection, social education, employment
- Treatment goals (mental/physical health, addiction)



Two Program requirements



Program
Requires:

2 CONDITIONS:

- 1) Comply with standard lease (Pay 30% of income to rent)
- 2) Home visit (1 x week)

Expectation
to uphold
terms and
conditions of
standard
lease; have
same rights
and
responsibilities

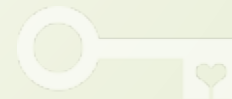
Landlords as Program Partners

1. Agency ensures rent is paid on time
2. Agency and landlord communication; responsiveness to landlord concerns
3. Agency responsible for tenant damages
4. Advantages of using rental market: quick start up, relocation, master leasing options, etc.



Principle 3: Service Array

Provide services needed +
“no wrong door” approach



3. MATCHING SERVICE NEEDS

Community based, responsive, and flexible

High Need

ACT – Multidisciplinary team
and provides direct
support and treatment

Caseload 1 to 10

Work as Team

Shared caseloads,
participant driven,
includes prescriber, other
clinical services, as well as
peer specialist and
employment specialist

Off site, on-call services 7-24

Moderate Need

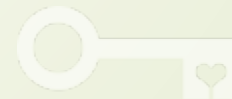
ICM - case
management team
provides support and
brokers services

Case loads of 1 to 15/20

Blended team models

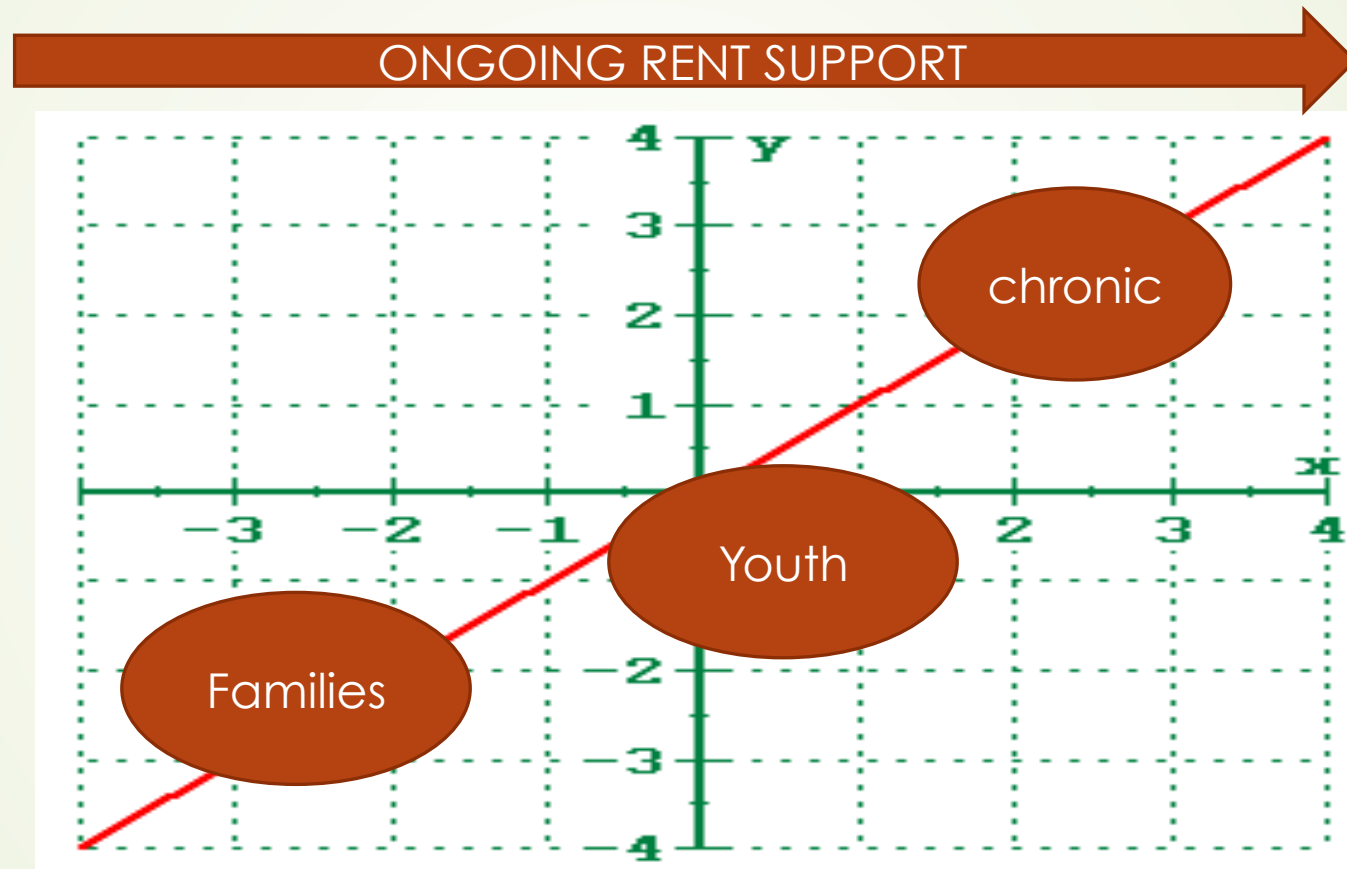
Peer specialists

All teams use a
recovery orientation




Matching service provision client needs

Service
Needs



Population or Complexity of Needs



Principle 4: Recovery Orientation

- Recovery Orientation
- *Peer support*
- Knowledge
- Skills to self-manage
- Emphasis on hopeful, inspiring culture

Recovery is more than reduction of psychiatric symptoms.

It is more than reducing drug alcohol use.

More than participation in services or reduction in use of acute care services.

It is about quality of life and the pursuit of everyday goals that are meaningful to the consumer.



Community Integration

Building community supports in integrated neighborhoods (self help, spiritual, cultural, personal skills and interests)

Services assist participants with community integration activities—orientation to building

Mapping of their neighborhood and community

GRADUATION!



Promoting Social Inclusion

Term 'Social Inclusion' originated in Europe

Society and its institutions actively promote opportunities for the participation of excluded persons including persons with psychiatric disabilities, in mainstream social, economic, educational, recreational, and cultural resources.

Full recovery can only occur when people with mental illnesses have the means and access to full-fledged membership in their communities (Thompson and Rowe, Psych Services, August 2010).





Housing First and Harm Reduction

Meet people where they are...

but don't leave them there.



In a trauma-informed program

- ➡ trauma is viewed not as a single discrete event but rather as a defining and organizing experience that forms the core of an individual's identity.

4. The Goal of Housing First is Recovery



Principle 5: Operations and Team Approach



80% of
services
are
provide
by
home
visits

