2017 National Conference on Ending Homelessness and Capitol Hill Day

July 17-19, 2017
Washington, D.C.

PROGRAM AGENDA
#NAEH17
Sunday
July 16, 2016

5-7:00 PM  Pre-Registration Check-In  Hotel Lobby

Monday
July 17, 2017

8 AM – 4:30 PM  Registration Check-In  Convention

9 AM – 12 PM  PRE-CON SESSIONS  Roosevelt 2

Improving the Intersection of Domestic Violence and Homeless Services

Improving coordination between domestic violence and homeless services providers holds great promise in improving our response to survivors. This preconference session will examine standards of practice as well as research on addressing the shelter and housing needs of survivors. Facilitated discussions will explore how to integrate effective practices from the domestic violence community into homeless service systems, how domestic violence providers are adopting and adapting housing responses for survivors, and how coordinated entry can be improved for survivors.

Rapid Re-Housing 101 for Providers and Community Leaders  Maryland ABC

Participants gain an understanding of the three core components of rapid re-housing: housing identification, financial assistance, and case management and services, as well as practical strategies for implementation. Facilitators will help participants tackle tough questions such as recruiting landlords in a challenging housing market and re-housing households with high barriers.

Revising and Strengthening the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness  Roosevelt 1

The current federal strategic plan, Opening Doors, built upon strategies and actions taken across multiple administrations and has helped to mobilize urgent action and significant national progress - but there is much more work ahead. The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness is beginning the process of gathering stakeholder input to revise and strengthen the plan. Please join us for this session – your input will be critical for our continued progress!
10 – 11:30 AM  **Homelessness 101: What We Have Learned About Ending Homelessness**

Just getting started in the homelessness field? This pre-conference session is for you! Alliance staff will discuss what we know about homelessness and its causes and solutions. Attendees will gain foundational knowledge about homelessness policy and practice that will help guide their first-time Alliance conference experience.

12 – 1 PM **Lunch On Own**

12:15 – 12:45 PM **STATE PREP SESSIONS**

- Arizona State Prep Session  
  - Washington 2
- Louisiana State Prep Session  
  - Roosevelt 2
- Michigan State Prep Session  
  - Roosevelt 5
- Missouri State Prep Session  
  - Washington 1
- Nevada State Prep Session  
  - Roosevelt 1
- Ohio State Prep Session  
  - Washington 5
- Tennessee State Prep Session  
  - Washington 3
- Texas State Prep Session  
  - Maryland ABC

1 – 1:45 PM **OPENING PLENARY**

- Nan Roman, President and CEO, National Alliance to End Homelessness

2 – 3:30 PM **WORKSHOP I**

1.01 **System Performance Measures: The Fundamentals of Improving Your System**

In this session, participants will learn about the importance of system performance measures for not only achieving U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funding but also for planning and decision-making.

1.02 **Becoming a Low-Barrier, Housing-Focused Shelter**

How does a shelter move to a low barrier model while delivering housing-focused services with the goal of housing people as quickly as possible? Learn from shelter providers the steps they took to shift to a low barrier model, while directing all staff activities to permanently house people residing in shelter quickly.

1.03 **Capitol Hill Day: Make Your Voice Heard**

On Capitol Hill Day (Wednesday, July 19), conference attendees will have the opportunity to meet with their congressional offices to advocate for homeless assistance, health care, and affordable housing programs. Learn about the Alliance’s policy priorities, how to hold an effective and educational meeting with your state’s congressional offices and how to connect with the group heading to the Hill from your state.
1.04 Crossing the Finish Line: Ending Chronic Homelessness
In order to cross the finish line and end chronic homelessness, communities need to be strategic in what steps they take and be prepared to prioritize and shift resources to ensure that every chronically homeless person can be housed. This workshop will provide communities with an overview of the strategies and specific steps that states and Continuums have implemented to cross their finish lines.

1.05 Understanding and Addressing Non-Chronic Homelessness Among Single Adults
Single adults account for the largest number of people experiencing homelessness both on a given night and over the course of a year. Most single adults are not homeless for long periods of time and do not have a serious disability. This session will review the federal policy being shaped to assist them, and how one community is examining its data and strategically planning to end homelessness for these individuals.

1.06 Ending Family Homelessness: How Is It Done?
This workshop will examine how communities are significantly reducing family homelessness through redesigning how they deliver services to those experiencing a housing crisis. Homeless service system leaders will describe the changes they undertook, how they built the necessary political will to shift the homeless service system, and the impact of the changes.

1.07 Understanding Unsheltered Homelessness: Trends, Characteristics, and Strategies
Unsheltered homelessness is on the rise in some communities. In this session, learn about the trends and characteristics of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness and about positive and negative approaches to working with this subpopulation.

1.08 Jump Start Your System to End Veteran Homelessness
Achieving an end to veteran homelessness takes political will, collaboration, and hard work. It is no wonder that in some communities early efforts to achieve this goal have come up against road blocks. Participants will gain practical strategies for getting unstuck, making course corrections, and getting back on track to end veteran homelessness.

1.09 Planning a Systemic Response to Youth Homelessness in Your Community
Ending youth homelessness requires moving beyond programmatic responses to systemic ones. Speakers in this workshop will discuss efforts around the country to develop those systemic responses and provide practical lessons for how you can develop them in your community as well!
1.10 Housing Search: Best Practices from the Alliance’s Rapid Re-Housing Program Standards

The initial core component of housing identification is how great rapid re-housing interventions begin. In this workshop, learn about effective marketing and recruitment tools to engage landlords and gain a better understanding of the vital role of housing navigators and the expertise needed for that role. This workshop will also cover housing identification strategies that work in high-cost, low-vacancy, and rural areas. Panelists will also discuss examples of improving housing quality and quality of life by paying attention to neighborhood amenities.

1.11 Stop Talking about It, Be about It: Addressing Racial Inequity

Join providers, local leaders, and funders working on racial equity in their communities as part of the Center for Social Innovation's Supporting Partnerships for Anti-Racist Communities (SPARC) initiative. Hear how the initiative was created, where the communities started, and what they are doing now.

1.12 Rural Homelessness: Needs, Challenges, and Strategies

In this session, participants will learn about the trends and characteristics of rural homelessness, about the ways in which homelessness amongst rural youth and other populations differs from urban or suburban homelessness, and about effective strategies for addressing homelessness in rural areas.

1.13 Making Employment a Key Component of the Homeless System

Panelists will discuss different strategies for implementing employment services in programs or the homeless services system. Hear from programs that have utilized evidence-based models for employment service delivery, built their own social enterprises to train and employ homeless jobseekers, and even developed an alternative staffing agency. Panelists will talk about their own experiences seeking funding, establishing partnerships, and building programming.

1.14 Decreasing HIV/AIDS Transmission

When HIV/AIDS transmission decreases among people experiencing homelessness or who have been re-housed, health outcomes improve and programs save money. In this session, speakers will lead a discussion on how best to reduce transmission and how those strategies translate to homeless situations.

4 – 4:45 PM SPOTLIGHT SESSION I

S1.01 Is My Shelter Ending Homelessness? Evaluating and Improving Shelter Performance

What data should you be collecting and analyzing to know whether your shelter is aligning itself with your community's goals to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring? This spotlight session will walk through the best ways to evaluate the performance of shelters and help improve their capacity to house people more quickly.
S1.02 CoC Leadership That Works
As the work of the Continuums of Care (CoC) becomes more complex, the role of the CoC board has become more and more important; however, many boards struggle to provide the leadership necessary to tackle things like implementing Coordinated Entry and utilizing system performance data. In this workshop participants will gain insight into the elements of effective CoC governance and the concrete steps they can take to get there. Continuum of Care leadership and funders will find this workshop particularly useful.

S1.03 Impacting the Federal Budget: Progress and Challenges
Federal resources are critical to make progress in preventing and ending homelessness and Congress will be making important decisions about them this year under particularly tough budgetary circumstances. Participants will learn about where we are in the budgetary process, progress that has been made toward increasing funds for homeless assistance and affordable housing programs, and challenges that lie ahead. They will also learn about effective federal advocacy strategies and upcoming opportunities to use them to impact key budget decisions.

S1.04 Go Big: An Innovative New Source for Housing Funding
Identifying new funding streams for housing is a challenge! Learn how a coalition of leaders in Santa Clara County CA made the case to the voters for "Measure A," a $950M Affordable Housing Bond. A focus will be on lessons learned - both positive and negative - about how to design a campaign, identify leadership, determine how to invest new funding, and monitor impacts of new initiatives.

S1.05 Using Medicaid to Pay for Services
People with complex medical and mental health needs often require a range of services, and programs often scramble to find the funding. In this session, hear how to get the most out of your state's Medicaid program.

S1.06 Within Reach: Leveraging Pay for Success for Permanent Housing
Take a deeper dive into Pay for Success projects! This session will explore how two communities (Los Angeles and Denver) developed success metrics tied to housing stability and criminal justice involvement. Attendees will gain a basic understanding of Pay for Success and how success metrics relate to payments for investors in each deal. In addition, attendees will gain an understanding of what Denver and Los Angeles found worked and did not work to design a project with measurable outcomes that could both motivate investors and solve homelessness problems.

S1.07 Engaging Workforce Development Boards in Your System
The Heartland Alliance will host a panel interview with a homeless service provider and their local Workforce Development Board to discuss successful partnerships, integration of practice, and providing services for homeless jobseekers.
S1.08 Housing: A Platform to Improve Health Outcomes
This spotlight session will offer a broad discussion of the research behind housing as a platform for improving health outcomes. The presenter will offer tips on engaging local health systems in homeless services to drive better health for the community.

S1.09 Building Bridges: Families as a Resource for Homeless Youth
Most young people experiencing homelessness cite family conflict as the primary cause of their homelessness, but families can also be an important resource in ending youth homelessness. This session will describe innovative strategies to engage families to ensure that young people do not become homeless, or to reconnect youth and families in safe and supportive ways.

S1.10 Increasing and Improving Services with Peer Support Staff
Peer support is a valuable tool for homeless services systems to use to improve overall service delivery, provide meaningful connections, support people experiencing homelessness, and improve outcomes. In this session, a consumer representative will share his powerful voice as a peer who has made a significant impact in his local system.

S1.11 Intentional Space: Creating Safe and Affirming Environments for LGBTQ Young People
Service providers will inevitably encounter LGBTQ young people seeking housing, programming, or support. They therefore have a responsibility to provide inclusive and affirming spaces for young people. Creating safe and affirming space has to be accomplished intentionally - from the physical space to a provider’s policies and procedures. This session and the accompanying Intentional Space Toolkit break down barriers to providing LGBTQ youth the inclusive and affirming supports and housing they deserve.

S1.12 Spotlight on Health Care Reform
This session will address proposed changes to the U.S. health care system included in the House and Senate bills currently being considered. We'll discuss the basic proposals and their impact on people experiencing homelessness or at risk for homelessness.

S1.13 Aging and Homelessness
The average age of homeless individuals is increasing and more elderly people are becoming homeless. In this session, learn what services are available to homeless people who are elderly and how to match those services to the needs of individuals.

S1.14 Safety Planning For Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence
Are your community’s homeless service programs protecting survivors from further abuse or harm? This spotlight session will provide an overview of strategies homeless providers can adopt to improve services to survivors of domestic and sexual violence.
5-5:45 PM  STATE PREP SESSIONS
California State Prep Session          Washington 4
Iowa State Prep Session               Washington 2
Massachusetts State Prep Session      Washington 1
New York State Prep Session          Maryland ABC
Utah State Prep Session              Washington 5

5-6:30 PM  Meet & Mingle with cash bar and light fare  Marriott Ballroom

Tuesday
July 18, 2017

8-9 AM  Continental Breakfast          Washington 6

8-9 AM  HUD Listening Session: Encampments  Washington 4

8-5:00 PM  Registration Check-In  Convention

8-8:30 AM  STATE CAPTAIN MEETING  Virginia A & B

8:30-9:30 AM  STATE PREP SESSIONS
Connecticut State Prep Session          Washington 3
Florida State Prep Session              Washington 1
Indiana State Prep Session              Roosevelt 3
Kentucky State Prep Session             Washington 2
Maine State Prep Session                Virginia A & B
Mississippi State Prep Session          Roosevelt 5
Nebraska State Prep Session             Virginia C
North Carolina State Prep Session       Washington 5
Oklahoma State Prep Session             Roosevelt 1
Wisconsin State Prep Session            Roosevelt 2

9:15-10:45 AM  WORKSHOP II
2.01 Driving Change with System Performance Measures  Washington 4

You have submitted your system performance measures to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development - now what? In this workshop three communities will share their performance and how they are working to improve it. Participants will learn how to interpret their system data and how to use this information to improve their homelessness system.
2.02 The Evolving Role of Emergency Shelter and Crisis Housing

What about shelters? Emergency shelters play a vital role that has evolved as communities have implemented large-scale systems change (such as becoming Housing First-oriented and establishing coordinated entry). Panelists will discuss the role of shelter in the outcome-focused crisis response system and provide approaches for re-tooling shelter practice, policy, and capacity to align with the community's larger goals to end homelessness.

2.03 Prioritizing Permanent Supportive Housing: Who Really Needs It?

Many communities face a dearth of permanent supportive housing (PSH) in their portfolios, while some communities may not need all their permanent supportive housing stock. In this session, attendees will learn how to target this intensive, service rich, intervention to those who really need it and/or free up funds to diversify their housing interventions. Attendees will learn how to use data-informed strategies to target existing and future PSH stock for families, youth, and single adults and how, by using data-informed strategies to target PSH, communities are able to make strategic reallocation decisions for other housing intervention types.

2.04 The Child Welfare System's Vital Role in Ending Youth Homelessness

The partnership of the child welfare system is essential to ending youth homelessness for both minor youth and young adults who are aging out of foster care. Speakers in this workshop will discuss innovative responses from child welfare systems to the youth homelessness crisis, and ways that attendees can develop effective partnerships with child welfare in their own communities.

2.05 Diversion: A Key Element of a Homelessness System

Individuals and families can be diverted at the front door of a community's homeless system by helping them identify safe alternate housing arrangements and connecting them with support. During this session, learn how communities have incorporated diversion strategies across their crisis response systems, and how to effectively identify appropriate situations for diversion.

2.06 Expanding the Role of Consumer Voices in Governance, Policy, and Practice

In all levels of work, consumer perspectives help homeless services to be more client-centered, as well as assist decision-makers and advocates to have a better sense of what programs are needed, how these programs are designed, and how to most effectively advocate for services that can best serve the most vulnerable. During this session, learn from members of the Alliance's Consumer Advisory Board and the National Youth Forum on Homelessness about their experience and strategies for ensuring that the voices of persons with lived experience inform the work being done on both a systems and service level, and how to best build consumer voices into the policy discussion.
2.07 Rent and Move-In Assistance: Best Practices from the Alliance's Rapid Re-Housing Program Standards
Rental assistance is a core component of rapid re-housing. This workshop will provide guidance on how to determine the amount of rental assistance used in rapid re-housing programs. Speakers will review relevant sections of the standards and discuss strategies that communities have found to be most successful. Participants will gain an understanding of the progressive engagement model in providing rental assistance.

2.08 Best Practices in Rapid Re-Housing for Youth
Think rapid re-housing (RRH) can't work for young people experiencing homelessness? Think again! This workshop features experienced, innovative youth RRH providers from around the country and best practices learned from the Alliance's RRH for Youth Learning Community. Every community can build an awesome Housing First response to youth homelessness, and speakers in this workshop will show you how.

2.09 Tips to Creating a Partnership with Your Public Housing Authority
Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) are key players in preventing and ending homelessness. This workshop will discuss successful relationships between Continuums of Care and PHAs, and explore creative ways that communities can partner with local housing agencies to expand housing opportunities.

2.10 GPD: Implementing the New Vision
The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Grant and Per Diem (GPD) Program has undergone incredible transformation in the past year. This workshop will present the new vision for GPD, how GPD can best be designed to fit your community's needs, and a community example of how to make the transition to a low-barrier and Housing First oriented program model.

2.11 Creating a Real System Across the Balance of State
Developing an effective homeless assistance system across Balance of State Continuums presents unique challenges, including limited resources, siloed providers, and vast geographic areas of coverage. This workshop will explore creative strategies that Balance of State Continuums are using to create a crisis response system. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn strategies and solutions that Continuums have used and ways they have engaged providers to participate in a systems approach.

2.12 At the Intersection: Mental Health, Substance Abuse, and Homelessness
In this session you will hear about the common mental illnesses and substance abuse issues that people who experience homelessness may face and what clinical and therapeutic supports they may need. You will also hear from technical assistance providers about how these services and supports should be integrated into housing interventions and how you might be able to pay for them.
2.13 Community-Wide Landlord Engagement
Housing is increasingly unaffordable, and landlords in many communities can afford to be picky about who they rent to. Community-wide landlord engagement strategies work to overcome these odds by focusing on collaboration. Participants will hear about efforts in high cost, low vacancy communities -- large and small -- to develop systemic landlord recruitment strategies. Participants will have an opportunity to share their own ideas, suggestions, and challenges.

2.14 Emerging Issues: What to Do About Encampments?
As unsheltered numbers have grown in some large cities, encampments have become more noticeable and in some instances entrenched. In this session, speakers will present strategies currently being employed to address established encampments and brainstorm possible new ones.

11 AM-12:45 PM LUNCH PLENARY
Marriott Ballroom
The Honorable Dr. Benjamin Carson, Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

1:15-2 PM SPOTLIGHT SESSION II

S2.01 Using the Continuum of Care NOFA to Improve Your Homeless System
Washington 4
The annual competition for Continuum of Care funds is a tool communities can use to reduce homelessness. Participants in this session will learn how to better use this process to align their portfolio of projects to the needs of their community. Discuss how to determine your community's needs, and how to use the reallocation and the rank and review processes to better meet that need.

S2.02 Evaluating Rapid Re-Housing
Maryland ABC
Evaluating rapid re-housing (RRH) is an important step to improving it. Through this session, you will learn how to assess your program using RRH performance goals and benchmarks. You also will learn how to use data and metrics to improve services. This session will teach you how to evaluate the effectiveness of your program in shortening the time your clients spend homeless, increasing permanent housing exits, and decreasing returns to homelessness.

S2.03 Permanent Supportive Housing: When It Is Time to Move On!
Washington 5
Permanent Supportive Housing is a critical element in ending chronic homelessness. With low turnover, many communities are experiencing huge backlogs in availability and long waiting lists. Learn how Jericho House's "On With Life Program" is working with residents who have stabilized to move on and make a healthy transition to alternative independent housing.
S2.04 Addressing the Unique Needs of Single Homeless Women
In this session, learn about how one provider is developing services to effectively address the unique needs of single women experiencing homelessness - and the lessons that can be taken back to your community.

S2.05 Leveraging Health Care Systems to Enhance Homeless Service Delivery
Hear from Central City Concern, a Portland provider which recently partnered with hospitals and health care providers in its area. Speakers will describe the health system's commitment to develop 379 new units of housing with an integrated health clinic, and approaches that other communities might employ to achieve similar partnerships.

S2.06 Local Success: A Proposition for Housing
How did the City of Los Angeles get residents to vote "yes" on Proposition HHH, a $1.2 billion bond measure that will create new housing for neighbors experiencing homelessness? Join speakers to hear how the community came together, what they learned along the way, and how these lessons can be applied in your community.

S2.07 The Role of State and Local Government
State and local governments have unique levers that can enable them to increase investment in effective strategies and improve performance. This session will feature leaders from the state and local levels discussing strategies they have undertaken to influence practice and performance.

S2.08 Using Data and Visualization to Improve Communication and Planning
Are you merely working to gather data or is your data working for you? In this session, learn how data and data visualization can be used to improve planning and coordination in your community.

S2.09 Engaging Employers in Homeless Services
Hear how to recruit, engage, and meet the needs of employers in your community so that they will become partners in hiring and homeless jobseekers and developing them through continued education and training.

S2.10 Serving Survivors of Human Trafficking
People experiencing homelessness are often vulnerable to sexual and labor exploitation. Homeless service providers should understand how to recognize when clients might be experiencing exploitation and how to provide effective services to survivors. This session will provide an overview of how to effectively identify and support survivors of human trafficking who are also experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
S2.11 Avoiding Burnout: Staff Self-Care
Roosevelt 4
Staff self-care is critical in order to continue to meet the needs of those served. Come learn about ways that staff can use trauma-informed care to take care of themselves and their co-workers. This interactive session will explore how Downtown Women's Center is helping providers in its community support their staff to avoid burnout - and what lessons can be taken from their experience.

S2.12 The VA and the CoC: How to Build an Effective Partnership
Roosevelt 5
Communities that have ended veteran homelessness all say the same thing: the partnership between the local Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center and the Continuum of Care (CoC) was vital in achieving this monumental goal. Easier said than done? This spotlight session will provide strategies on bridging the siloes that may exist in your community including approaches to collaborating across VA and CoC homeless programs, data systems, and coordinated entry.

S2.13 Host Homes: Creative Community Connections for Homeless Youth
Virginia A & B
Host homes are innovative and effective responses to youth homelessness that provide young people with safe shelter and support with caring hosts in the community. This session will highlight the work of one experienced host homes provider and supply helpful ideas for getting your community involved in hosting youth.

S2.14 Legal Services: Partners in Ending Homelessness
Delaware
Accessing justice can be key to a household's ability to obtain or maintain housing stability and self-sufficiency. Partnerships with civil legal services providers serve as critical resources in efforts to end homelessness. This spotlight session will highlight the role of civil legal services in ending and preventing homelessness and ensuring the safe and adequate delivery of services. Additionally, attendees will gain an understanding of the types of legal services offered and learn strategies and tips to building and sustaining partnerships with legal services organizations.

2:15-3:45 PM WORKSHOPS III

3.01 Data! The Vehicle for Rightsizing Your Crisis Response System
Washington 4
Determining how much emergency shelter, rapid re-housing (RRH) and permanent supportive housing (PSH) it takes to ensure homelessness is rare, brief, and nonrecurring is critical to an effective crisis response system. This session will cover core elements to an effective analysis of the number/types of housing interventions to match current/future need, ensure flow through the system, and effectively target resources to address current and future needs.
3.02 Coordinated Entry: Getting Beyond Requirements

Just about every community is now in the midst of establishing coordinated entry (CE) for all populations. This workshop will present the fundamentals of a good CE system, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s requirements and recommendations, and how to plan a CE system that gets beyond requirements to make positive impact on performance and outcomes.

3.03 Building Political Will at the Local Level

In this interactive session, local elected officials and advocates will explore how to effectively engage political leaders and get them involved in efforts to end homelessness. Using local data and stories will be among the strategies explored.

3.04 Progressively Engaging in Progressive Engagement

Your community is interested in adopting a progressive engagement approach across the homeless service system, but how do you get there? This facilitated discussion session will feature community leaders who are starting to put the pieces together and shift toward a system-wide progressive engagement approach. Conference participants are invited to share challenges, successes and concerns about adopting these approach in this interactive session.

3.05 Rapid Re-Housing Case Management: Best Practices from the Alliance’s Rapid Re-Housing Program Standards

In this workshop, learn best practices in housing-focused rapid re-housing case management, including guidance on strength-based approaches. The workshop will cover relevant sections of standards and how and when to end a case. Hear examples of efforts to ensure housing stability after being housed by the homeless assistance system.

3.06 Components of Effective Permanent Supportive Housing

What makes a permanent supportive housing (PSH) program effective? In this session, learn about the agency and service components that set apart successful PSH projects.

3.07 The Role of Transitional Housing

The role of transitional housing is changing as new approaches to homelessness are implemented and more is learned about who really benefits from the transitional model. This workshop will review research on transitional housing and how to target it accurately. Speakers will also share shifts in programing and new uses of stock that have allowed them to achieve their goals in new ways.

3.08 A Shifting Landscape: Undocumented and Documented Immigrants

While experiencing homelessness is an enormous challenge for anyone, imagine being homeless while lacking legal documentation. Many avenues of assistance are closed to non-citizens, but opportunities are there. In this session, learn how to access the available help and hear what others have done to assist undocumented people experiencing homelessness.
3.09 New Ways to Create and Communicate an Effective Message  
Research suggests that individual consumer stories, called episodic stories, are not as effective as thematic stories, which highlight the experience rather than the individual. Learn about this research and discuss how you can use thematic stories in your agency’s communications, fundraising, and advocacy.

3.10 Nothing to Feud About: Employment is Critical for Ending Homelessness  
Join us for a fun and interactive "Family Feud" style session where you and your colleagues will team up and help us debunk myths around employment and homelessness! You will identify funding streams that can be leveraged in your community. You will learn what philanthropy are doing to develop and maintain effective collaborations between workforce and homeless service systems for the benefit of homeless jobseekers.

3.11 Informing Practice: A Domestic Violence Lens on Service Provision  
Speakers in this workshop will provide an overview of the central tenets of serving survivors of domestic violence. They will explore how those strategies can be applied across the homeless service system from initial intake to re-housing assistance, in frontline work and in the design of service systems.

3.12 Engaging TANF Agencies as Partners  
Engaging Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) agency leaders and resources in ending homelessness can result in new funding for rapid re-housing, expedited access to child care, job training, and income supports. Speakers in this workshop will examine how TANF resources in several states are being used to prevent and end family homelessness, and explore steps that local homeless service leaders can take to forge similar partnerships.

3.13 Rapidly Re-Housing People with Zero Income  
Rapid re-housing can work for people with no income, but many providers find it more challenging. This fishbowl-style workshop will tackle this challenge? from convincing landlords to rent to these clients, to helping people connect with employment? all within the short rapid re-housing timeframe. Participants are encouraged to bring their questions, concerns, and solutions to share.

3.14 New Allies: Building and Leveraging Partnerships with Public Services  
Coordination among homeless service providers and police, fire departments, libraries and other public services agencies is essential to identifying and housing individuals experiencing homelessness. This session showcases the needed ingredients and outcomes of such innovative partnerships. Learn about the role these agencies can play and how they balance community concerns while combatting the criminalization of homelessness.
4.01 Coordinated Entry: Designing Prioritization That Fits Your Community’s Needs and Resources

What is the difference between prioritization, assessment, and eligibility? Designing a coordinated entry system that makes sense for your community includes determining the needs of the different populations experiencing homelessness, prioritizing people for housing and services, and matching them to the best available intervention. In the context of various assessment tools and lists, these policies can be pretty confusing. This workshop will help de-tangle some of these threads and provide key things to consider when developing prioritization policies.

4.02 SNAPs Q&A

Staff from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPs) Office will lead a discussion about their vision for ending family and youth homelessness and the federal strategic plan. This session will also include time for a lively Q&A about funding, regulations and grant competitions.


Ending homelessness in a community requires a Continuum of Care to make assumptions, project, and invest in the number and types of housing interventions to meet current and future housing needs. This session will look at the importance of and benefits to System Modeling, describe how basic strategies and methods to begin system modeling can positively impact system performance measures, and highlight outcomes from communities that have embarked on system modeling.

4.04 Preventing Homelessness: What Are We Testing and Learning?

A critical next step in our movement to end homelessness is to improve our capacity to identify the households most likely to become homeless and the effective strategies to serve them. Speakers will provide an overview of the research on homelessness prevention and the innovative approaches communities are testing. Strategies to help survivors of domestic violence retain housing will be among the topics explored in this workshop.

4.05 Better for You, Better for Them: Evaluating Your PSH.

Yes, your permanent supportive housing is the best ever, but there is always room for improvement. In this session, learn about the metrics and processes that will help you to evaluate your program's strengths and weaknesses and to develop a strategy for improvement.

4.06 Unusual Suspects: Funders Driving Intersectional Partnerships

How do funders address homelessness and its intersection with other systems? How can grantees work with funders in their community and engage unusual partners from these intersecting fields, such as health and criminal justice?
4.07 The Equal Access Rule: Creating an Environment That Welcomes Everyone
Consistent with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's mission to support inclusive communities, the 2012 and 2016 Equal Access Rule requires that all eligible individuals and families be served consistently, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or marital status. This interactive session will explore operational implementation of the Equal Access Rule and activities that support compliance. The rule applies to all recipients and sub-recipients of Community Planning and Development (CPD) funding, including service providers, owners, operators and managers of shelters, and other buildings and facilities funded by any CPD program.

4.08 Creative Responses to the Affordable Housing Crisis
The best way to end homelessness is to make sure there is enough affordable housing for people with low incomes. This workshop will explore efforts to expand the affordable housing supply and ensure that people experiencing homelessness are able to access it. Speakers will explain how attendees can work at the national, state, and local levels to advocate for affordable housing opportunities for people experiencing and at risk of homelessness.

4.09 Recovery Housing: Principles and Practice
What is recovery housing? Who needs it, and how much is needed? Where does it fit in the overall Housing First approach to homelessness? In this session, join the discussion about those questions and more.

4.10 Helping Young Children and Their Families Thrive
Supporting families experiencing homelessness should include a focus on the well-being of young children. Speakers in this workshop will examine how homeless service providers and systems can improve the development and health of young children, particularly through partnering with early childhood providers.

4.11 Role of Faith-Based Organizations in Ending Homelessness
In this workshop, learn about the critical role that faith-based organizations play in delivering homeless services. Faith-based providers will discuss what they see as the most pressing gaps in resources, approaches to ending homelessness, their role in local governance and systemic planning, and how a national shift to a Housing First philosophy has aligns with their mission.

4.12 Designing Effective Criminal Justice Partnerships to End Homelessness
Involvement in the criminal justice system is a significant barrier to housing and employment, and places many people at risk of homelessness. Addressing the unique needs of those within the jail and court systems requires developing innovative partnerships that link people to housing and services. In this workshop, learn how Los Angeles, CA has implemented comprehensive criminal justice systems change and what they have learned in the process that can inform work in other communities.
4.13 Harm Reduction Across the System
In this session, the Harm Reduction Coalition (HRC) will lead providers and administrators through an honest assessment of the current state of harm reduction practice and capacity within their programs and systems of care. From there, HRC will offer practical steps to strengthen the capacity of individual programs and the homelessness system broadly to serve people who use drugs or alcohol.

4.14 The Scoop on Roommates and Shared Housing
Communities are using shared housing and roommates as creative solutions to homelessness for single individuals, families, and youth. During this session, attendees will discuss ways to engage landlords for shared housing, lease options, and paying rent. Explore challenges and solutions in creating shared housing arrangements, including federal and local policy changes that could make it easier to establish them. Attendees also will discuss best practices for matching roommates.

5:45-6:15 PM STATE PREP SESSIONS
Delaware State Prep Session
Illinois State Prep Session
Maryland State Prep Session
Minnesota State Prep Session
Rhode Island State Prep Session
Vermont State Prep Session
Virginia State Prep Session

Wednesday July 19, 2017

8-9 AM Continental Breakfast
8-9 AM HUD Listening Session: Human Trafficking
8 AM-2 PM Registration Check-In

9:15-10:45 AM WORKSHOP V
5.01 Attaining and Sustaining an End to Veteran and Chronic Homelessness
In this session, participants will hear from three communities that have ended homelessness among veterans or chronically homeless people. Learn about components and strategies that were important in overcoming barriers and reaching that goal, and about strategies to maintain that progress.
Is your transitional housing program effective? Is it helping the people in the way intended? In this session, learn about the metrics and processes that will help you to evaluate your program's strengths and weaknesses, and develop a strategy for improvement.

In this session, hear from clinical and homeless services experts about the unique intersection of homelessness and opioid abuse, and how your system or program can accommodate the needs of people who have an opioid use disorder and experience homelessness.

Effective outreach means meeting people experiencing homelessness where they are at, literally. This workshop will explore innovative ways different communities are connecting with several hard-to-reach populations. Speakers will also describe how to build trusting relationships with people experiencing homelessness to most effectively facilitate connections to the housing and service resources they need to become stably housed.

By-name lists are a great tool to help a community identify all veterans or people experiencing chronic homelessness and help to match them to a permanent housing solution as quickly as possible. Panelists will describe what a great by-name-list looks like and how it should best function, as well as how to create a list that works with your HMIS and other data systems.

Survivors of domestic violence are better served when coordinated entry and homeless service systems are able to appropriately identify and assess their housing needs and provide linkages to the supports they require. This interactive session will explore how homeless service providers and domestic violence programs are working together to improve cohesion and overcome barriers to coordination.

After a flood or other natural disaster, housing and homeless service providers are often tasked with re-housing large numbers of people quickly in a depleted housing market. Speakers will share lessons learned from their experiences, including tailoring federal emergency assistance resources and navigating the varying needs of displaced households.
5.08 Community Action Agencies Solving Homelessness

Community Action Agencies command an array of resources that can be used to strengthen and improve the housing stability and well-being of low-income and vulnerable people. This session will explore how Community Action Agencies are collaborating with homeless service systems to help solve homelessness.

5.09 Making It Count: Getting More Volunteers and Experts Involved in Point-in-Time Counts

Accurate and reliable Point-in-Time Counts depend on having enough volunteers and the right volunteers. Learn how communities have dramatically increased volunteer recruitment or are utilizing experts like youth peers and formerly homeless guides to make it count.

5.10 Child Welfare Agencies Solving Housing Needs

Child welfare agencies increasingly recognize that helping families stabilize in housing improves their ability to stay together or reunify. This workshop will examine how child welfare agencies are working to address the housing needs of child welfare involved families. Permanent supportive housing will be among the housing models explored.

5.11 School Partnerships That Prevent and End Homelessness

Public schools regularly interact with children, youth, and families experiencing housing instability and homelessness. This workshop will examine how homeless service systems and schools can effectively coordinate to improve the housing and education outcomes of children and youth experiencing homelessness.

5.12 Building a Movement: Why Grassroots Organizing Matters Locally, and How to Do It

One of the most effective tools for implementing change at the federal level is for communities to develop and maintain a strong network of grassroots advocates, local leaders, and elected officials who are committed to ending homelessness. This workshop offers a framework for how local organizing can help efforts to influence Congress and the Federal Government. It will provide training on skills, tactics, and strategies to help communities develop a network that can engage in federal advocacy.

5.13 Ensuring Housing Stability after Homelessness

It can be challenging to ensure housing stability after homeless program assistance ends. In this innovation session, discuss your biggest challenges in stabilizing clients in housing and learn from experts about tools and opportunities that can help.
5.14 Ending Long Stays in Shelter

There is a small subset of individuals who use a disproportionately large number of shelter bed nights because of long stays in emergency shelter. Speakers in this session will discuss how to identify this population and strategies for getting them into housing. This will include discussion of long stayers who do not qualify as chronically homeless and those who may have significant barriers to housing, including medical frailty.

11 AM-12:45 PM  CLOSING LUNCH PLENARY  Marriott Ballroom

The Honorable Maxine Waters, Ranking Member, House of Representatives

1-5 PM  CAPITOL HILL DAY VISITS

POST-CON SESSIONS

1-4 PM  Using the SSVF System Assessment and Improvement Toolkit for Veterans and Other Populations  Hoover

1-4 PM  Local Strategies to Address Domestic Violence and Homelessness  Coolidge