Helping Survivors of Domestic Violence and Trafficking Stay Safe During the Pandemic

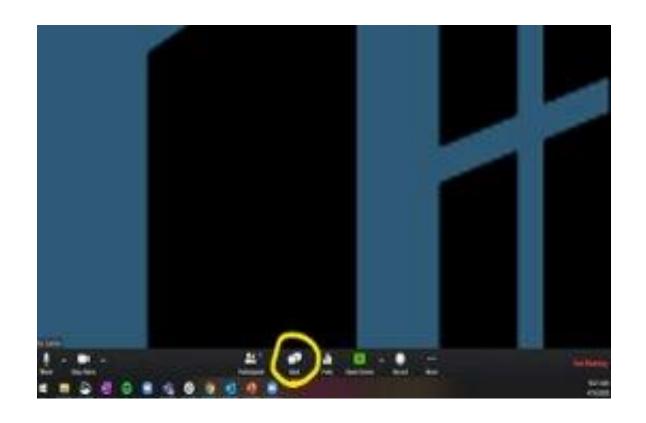
May 14, 2020



Housekeeping

- All attendees are on mute, and video options are turned off.
- The Zoom chat function has been disabled. Please enter your questions in the Zoom Q&A box.







SHARON MCDONALD, PHD

National Alliance to End Homelessness



Today's Agenda

- Overview what homeless service providers/system leaders should know about serving survivors during the pandemic
- Advancements in integrating service systems and practice in serving survivors at intersection of homelessness and domestic violence and trafficking
- How providers are modifying services to in light of the pandemic to protect survivors and staff



Introducing Today's Speakers

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A Framework for COVID-19 Homelessness Response

- Racial Justice and Equity Orientation
- Phased Steps: Immediate, Short-Term, Medium & Long-Term goals/Accomplishments
- Activity Areas/Where to Seek Change:
 - Unsheltered
 - Shelter
 - Housing
 - Prevention & Diversion
 - Strengthening Systems for the Future





Public Health and Economic Recovery

Overview: Homeless System Planning for the Most Effective Use of COVID-19 Funding

A Framework for COVID-19
Homelessness Response:
Responding to the Intersecting
Crises of Homelessness and
COVID-19



IMMEDIATE ACTIONS Public Health Response: Emergency Protective Measures to Flatten the Curve

Create system-wide testing and/or screening protocol and route people to appropriate options based on need (asymptomatic, symptomatic, high-risk, COVID positive)

- Unsheltered People: Increase outreach and create additional hygiene resources (handwashing stations, showers, laundry) for people in unsheltered locations.
- Shelters:
- Ensure social distancing in current congregate facilities.
- Stand up new non-congregate shelter for highrisk, symptomatic, overflow and people in unsheltered locations.

Housing

- Continue housing people through normal channels.
- · Prevention/Diversion
- Implement jurisdiction-wide moratoria on evictions.
- Support people in PSH and RRH.
- Link to employment.
- Other Key Activities:
- Collect data for planning.
- · Engage People with Lived Expertise in planning.





SHORT-TERM ACTIONS Public Health and Economic Recovery Response: Effective and Equitable Re-Housing

Develop policies and practices that support people in non-congregate or overflow shelters exiting to housing, not back to unsheltered locations.

Unsheltered People

- Sustain and expand efforts to support, screen, test, and safely shelter people who are unsheltered.
- Engage people with lived expertise and other partners to increase outreach, especially in rural areas.

· Shelters:

- Begin re-housing people placed into noncongregate or overflow shelter.
- Re-house people in congregate or unsheltered locations.

Housing:

- Begin landlord engagement activities.
- Begin re-engagement of coordinated entry.
- Begin cross-system planning.

Prevention/Diversion:

- Scale up efforts to prevent loss of housing among people in PSH and RRH programs.
- Other Key Activities:
- Implement equity-based decision making protocols.
- Use data to project need for different interventions and inform equity-based decisions.



MEDIUM-TERM ACTIONS Economic Recovery Response: Reduce New Entries into Homelessness

Continue to implement CDC/HHS guidance in homeless programs and systems.

- Unsheltered People: Re-house people living in unsheltered locations and increase support for unsheltered persons.
- Shelters:
- Scale up non-congregate shelter as needed.
- Implement or increase housing-focused case management in shelter.

Housing:

- Move people from CARES-funded RRH into PSH if needed.
- Work with PHAs and other housing agencies to access vouchers for households in CARESfunded RRH who need long-term assistance.

· Housing cont'd:

 Prevent evictions due to economic crisis for extremely low income and marginalized persons first. Plan for higher income (30-80% AMI) at-risk households.

· Prevention/Diversion:

- Divert households from homeless systems when possible
- Engage partner systems (TANF, Child Welfare, Justice) for prevention activities.

Other Key Activities:

 Use data to refresh projections of need for different interventions and assess equity impact.



LONGER-TERM ACTIONS

Economic Recovery and Public Health Preparedness: Strengthen Systems to Advance Racial Equity and Prepare for Future Crises

Strengthen connection between homeless and public health/emergency management systems to prepare for future crises.

- Unsheltered People: Monitor re-housing efforts for people living in unsheltered locations.
- Shelter
- Close non-congregate and overflow shelters by moving residents into housing.
- Assess the feasibility of congregate shelter as a common practice in light of pandemic.
- Connect COVID related homeless assistance to employment systems.

· Housing:

- Assess and plan additional activities/targeting for marginalized/highly impacted communities.
- Prevention/Diversion:
- Prevent evictions due to economic crisis for higher income populations as appropriate (30-80% AMI).

Other Key Activities:

 Conduct review of COVID response to inform lessons learned for planning, including impact of equity-focused practices.



DEBBIE FOX

National Network to End Domestic Violence &

Domestic Violence and Housing Technical Assistance Consortium

DV & Housing TA Consortium (DVHTAC)

Federal Partners

- Family Violence Prevention & Services Program/HHS
- Office on Violence Against Women/DOJ
- Office for Victims of Crime/DOJ
- Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs/HUD
- US Interagency Council on Homelessness

Technical Assistance Providers

- National Alliance for Safe Housing (NASH)
- Collaborative Solutions, Inc. (CSI)
- National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV)
- National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRCDV)
- National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC)
- Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH)



National Network to End Domestic Violence



NNEDV is a social change organization dedicated to creating a social, political and economic environment where violence against women no longer exists.

NNEDV's Collaborative Approach to Safe Housing for Survivors Project provides training and technical assistance to improve coordination between domestic violence and homeless services.

NNEDV's Safety Net Project addresses the intersection of technology and abuse, and provides training and technical assistance to advocates, law enforcement, legal services, social services providers, survivors and other stakeholders.



Consortium COVID-19 Resources

- •Safe Housing Partnerships: https://safehousingpartnerships.org/news/
- •NASH: <u>DV and Housing-Related Coronavirus Resources</u>
- •NNEDV: COVID-19: Coalition Guidance for Programs by the National Network to End Domestic Violence
- •NRCDV: <u>Preventing & Managing the Spread of COVID-19 Within</u>
 <u>Domestic Violence Programs</u>
- •NSVRC: Resources for Covid-19 Response
- •CSI: HUD and DV Resources -Covid-19



Discussion/ Questions



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SAFE HOUSING PARTNERSHIPS

The website for the Domestic Violence and Housing Technical Assistance Consortium

UNDERSTANDING THE INTERSECTIONS

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

EMPLOYING KEY APPROACHES

PUBLIC POLICIES

- Data, infographics, literature reviews, and reports that describe the intersections between domestic violence, sexual assault, homelessness, and housing
- Strategies for building effective and sustainable partnerships across systems and case studies of successful collaborations
- In-depth resource collections organized around four key approaches to addressing and preventing housing instability among survivors
- Access to relevant federal laws, regulations, and polices

Have questions? Need TA? Want training?
Contact the Consortium directly through the site!



KAREN ROMERO

Freedom Network USA



HOUSING NEEDS AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS

Karen Romero
Training Institute Director
Freedom Network USA



HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND COVID-19

The COVID pandemic has highlighted the gaps in the systems meant to serve and house survivors. It has confirmed that survivors of trafficking need access to safe and long-term housing.





HOUSING INSECURITY

- Survivors who are housed are losing jobs and potentially facing evictions
- Landlords threatening to evict survivors due to unpaid rent
- Some programs are reporting an increase in new clients and some have previous clients returning
- Many programs are relying on hotels to meet the immediate housing needs
- Landlord coercion by soliciting sex in exchange for rent



ADAPTING IN RESPONSE TO COVID

- Programs requesting grant adjustments to meet housing needs
- Collaboration with community partners to meet housing needs
- Know your rights for tenants (state by state)
- Long-term hotel stays
- Access to technology to mitigate social distancing
- Remote advocacy



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Support Call: Housing Survivors of trafficking During COVID
- FAQ on Service Provision for Housing Survivors of Trafficking FAQ from Listening Session with FNUSA, HUD, and NSN
- DOJ Sexual Harassment in Housing Initiative Website
- Freedom Network USA's Resource Library



CONNECT WITH US

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Discussion

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More Information

National Network to End Domestic Violence www.nnedv.org



Safe Housing Partnership https://safehousingpartnerships.org/



Freedom Network USA www.freedomnetworkusa.org



National Survivor Network https://nationalsurvivornetwork.org/



Downtown Women's Center www.downtownwomenscenter.org



Rainbow Services (L.A.)
www.rainbowservicesdv.org



Crossroads Rhode Island www.crossroadsri.org





Continue the Conversation....

National Alliance to End Homelessness Forum

https://forum.endhomelessness.org/

Learn

https://naeh.catalog.instructure.com/programs/naehcataloginstructurecomprogramscovid19learn ingseries

Be Heard

https://endhomelessness.org/help-end-homelessness/take-action/

Share Your Experiences

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