

IMPROVING JOINT TH-RRH: ARE WE DOING THIS RIGHT?

An effective, efficient, and equitable homeless response system should work to prevent homelessness when possible and swiftly connect individuals experiencing homelessness to housing. In 2017, HUD introduced a new project type, Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Re-Housing (TH/RRH), which provides crisis housing (TH) and rapidly connects people to housing (RRH). This project can play a crucial role in improving system outcomes. To ensure that the Joint TH/RRH positively impacts the overall system, homeless service providers must adhere to the following components:

Ensure Clear Communication: Communicate the objectives of both projects effectively, emphasizing upfront the goal of stable housing from the beginning of engagement.

Identify Target Populations: Determine which populations would benefit most from this project, such as transition-aged youth, survivors of domestic violence, unsheltered individuals, single adults, and families.

Assess Available Safe Crisis Housing: Evaluate the availability of safe crisis housing to determine the need for a joint project.

Lead with Client Choice: Allow individuals to understand the project fully and select the most beneficial intervention for them.

Provide Flexible Housing Options: Use the Transitional Housing component as crisis housing when needed, such as cases of unsheltered individuals/households. Ensure that individuals also can go directly to Rapid Re-Housing, especially for households already sheltered.

Use Progressive Engagement: Implement a 24-month maximum for an individual or household's combined use of TH/RRH, with the total duration allotted in monthly increments, focusing on achieving stable housing quickly. Provide messaging for both clients and the community about the short-term use of the crisis housing and the programs rooted in rapid exits to their own unit.

Provide Wrap-Around Services: Offer culturally responsive wrap-around services to support individuals throughout their housing journey. Case management should be creative, flexible, and focus on housing and stabilizing in that housing as quickly as possible.

Establish Clear Policies and Procedures (Standards): System leaders should establish clear policies and procedures to ensure everyone understands the project's implementation and goals.

By adhering to these components, Joint TH/RRH can significantly enhance the homeless response system's effectiveness and efficiency.

WEBINAR: "JOINT TRANSITIONAL HOUSING/RAPID RE-HOUSING (TH-RRH): AM I DOING THIS RIGHT?"

PART OF THE WEBINAR SERIES "STRONGER TOGETHER: A ROADMAP TO AN EFFECTIVE HOMELESSNESS SYSTEM"