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# Event Agenda

2025 National Conference on Ending Homelessness

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## Monday, June 30, 2025

### Registration & Badge Pickup

8:00 AM – 4:30 PM | Location: Concourse Foyer

### Pre-Conference Sessions

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

#### PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

#### So You Want to Implement Housing Problem-Solving?

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

##### PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Implementing housing problem-solving is no small feat: it's a strategy that integrates with all parts of a homelessness response system and supports the end goal of ending homelessness at the community level. From mediation skills to data practices to sustaining funding sources, communities must figure out how to balance flexibility with standardization, ensure scarce resources are deployed equitably, and support households to achieve immediate crisis resolution with long-term staying power. Come learn alongside other communities who are turning to housing problem-solving as a powerful tool to stem inflow into homelessness and increase outflow from their systems into safe, stable housing.

#### Advocacy 101: Beginners, Start Here!

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

##### PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

If you've never participated in advocacy before, it may seem intimidating. But advocacy is a key way to ensure that lawmakers and policymakers have enough information to make decisions on programs that impact homeless services – right in your community. Come learn the nuts and bolts about advocacy, what it is, who it is for, and how it gets done. This session is aimed at attendees who are newer to advocacy, or who are interested in a refresher.

#### Implementing the Housing-Focused Street Outreach Framework

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

##### PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Come learn about the Alliance's Housing-Focused Street Outreach Framework to understand how both current and future street outreach providers can ensure their work is grounded in a housing-focused approach. Hear from a range of experts in the field on effectively connecting individuals and families experiencing unsheltered homelessness to long-term housing solutions.

#### Mobilizing Ideas to Action: Building a Movement

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

##### PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Sometimes it doesn't feel like advocacy is enough. How can we come together and build a movement to end homelessness? Come learn about strategies to move beyond advocacy as individuals and organizations: as part of a movement to build momentum, influence change, and create change at all levels of government.

#### Authentic Inclusion and Partnership with People with Lived Expertise in Advocacy Efforts

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

##### PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Advocacy is most effective when people who have been directly impacted by an issue can speak to the need for things to change. In this session, we'll be focusing on how your advocacy efforts can- and should - authentically partner with people who have lived experience of homelessness.

### Lunch on Own

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

### Opening Plenary

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM | Location: International Ballroom

#### PLENARY

## Workshop I

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

### WORKSHOPS

#### 1.01 Navigating Challenging Housing Markets to Provide Stable Housing

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

##### WORKSHOPS

As rents continue to rise throughout the country, the supply of affordable housing is not able to meet the demand. Service providers have had to employ different housing navigation strategies to obtain housing for their clients and get creative to use their available resources. Come hear how housing providers have used existing resources with success.

#### 1.02 Addressing Criminalization and Coercive Responses to Unsheltered Homelessness

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

##### WORKSHOPS

Some states and cities are proposing measures that criminalize unsheltered homelessness. While these policies are sometimes framed as efforts to address mental health, they often disproportionately target people experiencing homelessness as a group. Learn how to engage your community and advocate against these harmful approaches.

#### 1.03 Shift Happens: Making Housing First Work in the Real World

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

##### WORKSHOPS

Housing First is more than a philosophy: it's a practical, proven, evidence-based approach that prioritizes access to permanent housing without preconditions. This session will clarify the core principles of Housing First and how they differ from traditional models. Participants will explore actionable strategies to shift programs and systems toward a housing-focused approach, including staff training, policy alignment, and coordinated entry improvements. Using real-world examples, the session will also highlight common challenges and offer tools for building support across teams, partners, and the broader community.

#### 1.04 Insights from Research: Improving and Scaling Up Permanent Supportive Housing

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

##### WORKSHOPS

While the evidence supporting the effectiveness of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is strong, we continue to learn about ways to improve its design and implementation. Attendees will learn from researchers who have done both qualitative and quantitative work on PSH with communities across the country. This session is ideal for PSH providers looking to improve service delivery and for Continuums of Care looking to scale up PSH in their communities, including in rural contexts.

#### 1.05 Lessons in Leadership: Working Through Challenges With Other System and Organizational Leaders

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

##### WORKSHOPS

Working in leadership means making tough decisions about the path that a system or organization walks. During turbulent times for our sector, leaders are often confronted with multiple bad options. These are especially challenging when very few people in your community fully understand your context and challenges. Hear from leaders about how they learned to deliver consistent results and strategic change in their communities. Ask questions about how they developed the knowledge and expertise required to make an impact. And most importantly, think through solutions to you and your community's most pressing challenges.

#### 1.06 Understanding Today's Federal Policy Landscape

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

##### WORKSHOPS

With Executive Orders, federal staffing changes, and new Congressional priorities, the federal policy landscape has changed dramatically in the past few months. How can we make sense of it all? This session will present and organize ways to understand the most important changes the homeless services field faces right now, and how they might affect our work.

#### 1.07 Harnessing the Promise of Coordinated Entry for Ending Homelessness

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

##### WORKSHOPS

How effective is your Coordinated Entry System? Come learn about strategies for increasing the effectiveness of Coordinated Entry for connecting people across your system to housing and services. Hear from practitioners who are removing barriers to homelessness services access, building strategic partnerships, engaging dynamic prioritization strategies, and proactively addressing inequities in referral processes and outcomes.

### 1.08 Building Stability Through Community: Enhancing Housing Transitions with Strategic Partnerships

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

#### WORKSHOPS

Transitioning to housing can be complex and challenging for people who have experienced homelessness. This session will explore how Rapid Re-Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing programs can leverage the strength of community networks and strategic partnerships. Join a panel of experts as they share real-world rehousing strategies that have successfully integrated community-based programs to support long-term stability for individuals and families moving into permanent housing.

### 1.09 SOARing to New Heights: Creative Ways to Boost Application Approvals During Hard Times

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

#### WORKSHOPS

SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access & Recovery) has proven to be a successful program to help people experiencing homelessness obtain disability benefits. But recent cuts to the federal workforce – including the shutting down of several Social Security offices, especially in rural areas – are major barriers to accessing these benefits. Learn from providers who use SOAR to assist their clients with SSI/SSDI applications on how they are jumping over these new hurdles.

### 1.10 Safe Options and Person-Centered Approaches to Addressing Homelessness

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

#### WORKSHOPS

In 2022, New York State established the Safe Options Support (SOS) Team initiative featuring a team of clinicians, paraprofessionals and peers who conduct outreach and utilize Critical Time Intervention and Housing First master leasing models to engage chronically unhoused individuals. Attendees will learn about the model's development, ways community partnerships are leveraged to support street outreach efforts and how SOS Teams promote sustained engagement through permanent housing and beyond.

## Transformation Talks I

2:30 PM – 3:30 PM | Location: Gunston

### TRANSFORMATION TALKS

#### TT1 Beyond the PIT Count: Strengthening Outreach Data for Systemwide Impact

2:30 PM – 2:40 PM

#### TRANSFORMATION TALKS

San Mateo County has transformed our approach to unsheltered homelessness by going beyond the PIT count through monthly, by-jurisdiction outreach data collection and reporting. We've built robust capacity within our CoC and outreach teams for data entry and quality assurance, all while maintaining our commitment to delivering direct services. Join me to learn how we created this dynamic system—and how your community can harness HMIS to improve planning and drive effective outcomes.

#### TT2 How Colleges Can Connect Students to Housing Through FYI Vouchers

2:55 PM – 3:05 PM

#### TRANSFORMATION TALKS

Colleges have a growing responsibility to respond to student homelessness. This session unpacks how schools can support students' housing needs, mobilize student advocacy, and partner with public systems to ensure no student has to choose between school and shelter. Learn how Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Vouchers can be a useful tool for stable housing.

#### TT3 Using Big Data to Study Veteran Homelessness and Long-Term Housing Outcomes

3:20 PM – 3:30 PM

#### TRANSFORMATION TALKS

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) assists Veterans experiencing housing instability. Researchers and policymakers can use clinical and community data to learn about the effect of SSVF on housing outcomes; identify risk factors and trends in Veteran homelessness; and compare outcomes for Veterans experiencing sheltered versus unsheltered homelessness. This talk will summarize key findings and demonstrate how big data can provide critical insights for informing policy and practice.

## Breathwork and Centering

3:50 PM – 4:10 PM | Location: Rest & Reset Lounge

### WELLNESS

## Workshop II

4:15 PM – 5:30 PM

### WORKSHOPS

## **2.01 Sustaining the Mission: Collaboration and Creative Strategies to Diversify Funding**

4:15 PM – 5:30 PM

### **WORKSHOPS**

Whether you're working directly with clients or leading programs, you can play a part in strengthening your organization's financial future. This session explores ways to diversify funding beyond traditional federal grants. Learn practical strategies to cultivate donor relationships, strengthen partnerships, and build collaboration.

## **2.02 Insights from Research: Responding to the Crisis of Unsheltered Homelessness with Permanent Housing Solutions**

4:15 PM – 5:30 PM

### **WORKSHOPS**

Communities are grappling with how best to respond to growing unsheltered homelessness. In this session, researchers will share emerging evidence about short- and long-term strategies. This session will cover interventions ranging from street outreach to direct permanent housing connections, including those recently funded by HUD's Special Notice of Funding Opportunity to Address Rural & Unsheltered Homelessness.

## **2.03 Unleashing the Potential: How Expanding Rapid Re-Housing Can Improve Your System and Outcomes**

4:15 PM – 5:30 PM

### **WORKSHOPS**

Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) is an evidence-based strategy that helps people quickly reconnect to housing. What can we learn from communities that have expanded access to Rapid Re-Housing for the people they serve? What are the benefits for the individuals being re-housed? How do we build more support for the model and attract more resources so more people will have the support they need to reconnect to housing? Join this interactive session to explore these and other questions exploring how we can do more to unleash the potential of Rapid Re-Housing to end homelessness.

## **2.04 Welcome People In, Bring People Home: Shelter Practices That Work**

4:15 PM – 5:30 PM

### **WORKSHOPS**

Shelter is a vital part of the homeless response system but only works if people can access it when they need it and use it as a launchpad to get back into housing. Learn concrete strategies for improving shelter access and focusing on housing from practitioners who've accomplished those goals in their own shelter programs.

## **2.05 All About HUD: Impact of Federal Policy Shifts on Key Housing Programs**

4:15 PM – 5:30 PM

### **WORKSHOPS**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) plays a critical role in the federal government's response to addressing homelessness. Come learn about how policy shifts in the new administration are impacting HUD's Homeless Assistance Grants programs and other key housing programs, like Housing Choice Vouchers.

## **2.06 Tailoring Interventions and Partnerships for Older Adults Experiencing Homelessness and Abuse**

4:15 PM – 5:30 PM

### **WORKSHOPS**

Older adults experiencing homelessness often face compounding challenges, including domestic violence and elder abuse. Learn how this crisis should inform service needs and access to care. Attendees will learn how to recognize the signs and risk factors of domestic violence and elder abuse and hear about the cross-sector collaboration that addresses the complex needs of older adults.

## **2.07 Reclaiming Equity: Strengthening DEIA When DEIA is Under Attack**

4:15 PM – 5:30 PM

### **WORKSHOPS**

As Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) initiatives face growing opposition and rollbacks, this session empowers participants to respond effectively and confidently. Instead of merely defending DEIA, this workshop reconnects DEIA to its core values rooted in civil rights, justice, and community empowerment. Through interactive storytelling, policy insights, practical community tools, and clear strategies, participants will learn how to maintain DEIA as an essential practice; not just a buzzword.

## **2.08 Advancing Rehousing Strategies Through Landlord Engagement**

4:15 PM – 5:30 PM

### **WORKSHOPS**

Landlord engagement is a cornerstone of effective rehousing strategies – But in today's challenging housing market, it requires more than just outreach. Successful landlord engagement demands a comprehensive, relationship-centered approach that builds trust, reduces risk, and aligns landlord interests with the urgent need to house individuals and families experiencing homelessness. This session will offer a deep dive into innovative and scalable landlord engagement practices that have driven success in diverse communities.

## 2.09 Establishing and Improving Partnerships with First Responders

4:15 PM – 5:30 PM

### WORKSHOPS

First responders (including fire, emergency medical personnel, and police) often interact with people experiencing homelessness and can be the first on the scene in a crisis. Partnerships between homelessness response systems and first responders can help ensure that people experiencing unsheltered homelessness are treated with dignity and respect and can facilitate quick connections to outreach and housing resources. Learn from communities that have worked to improve communication, coordination, and trust across systems.

## 2.10 The Impact of Communication for System Change

4:15 PM – 5:30 PM

### WORKSHOPS

After serving as the backbone for Western Connecticut's homelessness response system for 15 years, The Housing Collective was able to scale and amplify the impact of their work by investing in communications capacity. Representatives from the organization will describe how communications tactics—changing narratives, leveraging different forms of media, and mobilizing new partners—can advance efforts to end homelessness and expand access to housing.

## Transformation Talks II

4:15 PM – 5:15 PM

### TRANSFORMATION TALKS

### TT4 The HomeMore Project: Cross County Movement and the Power of Connection while Homeless

4:15 PM – 4:25 PM

#### TRANSFORMATION TALKS

In response to the growing unsheltered homelessness crisis across California, Zac Clark developed the Makeshift Traveler, designed to be the last backpack someone experiencing homelessness will ever need. The backpack contains a solar panel, charging port, and other features, and has been delivered in over 30 cities. Clark has also met with local homeless communities in all 58 counties in California; in this session, he'll share some big ideas about movement between county lines, overall dynamics between urban and rural communities in the approach to ending unsheltered homelessness, and how the features of the Makeshift Traveler backpack have resulted in increased communication and connection.

### TT5 Encampment-to-Housing Response & The Fear of Moral Turpitude

4:40 PM – 4:50 PM

#### TRANSFORMATION TALKS

Partnering with people in uniform throughout the country, they consistently celebrate the fact that housing people from encampments means both they and encampment residents will get what they need. Yet, decision makers often tremble with the fear of moral turpitude, as if housing encampment residents somehow violates community standards of honesty, justice, or good values. In this talk, I will introduce the basics of how encampment-to-housing strategies work and why they make good plain sense.

### TT6 Bridging the Gap: A Human Approach to Aftercare

5:05 PM – 5:15 PM

#### TRANSFORMATION TALKS

Community Supported Shelters created a unique aftercare program to bridge the gap between sheltered and unsheltered homelessness. By offering ongoing case management and outreach after shelter exit, they provide a human-centered continuum of care for those entering housing or still unsheltered. This approach boosts positive sentiment and reduces feelings of institutional betrayal when low-barrier shelter programs fall short.

## Networking Reception

5:45 PM – 7:15 PM | Location: International Ballroom

### NETWORKING

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## Tuesday, July 01, 2025

### Morning Meditation and Centering

7:15 AM – 7:45 AM | Location: Rest & Reset Lounge

### WELLNESS

### Networking Breakfast

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM | Location: Terrace & Columbia Foyers

### NETWORKING

## Registration & Badge Pickup

8:00 AM – 4:30 PM | Location: Concourse Foyer

## Spotlight I

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

### WORKSHOPS

#### S1.01 What Would It Cost to End Homelessness?

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

##### WORKSHOPS

Most people familiar with the field of homelessness know that providers don't have enough resources to end homelessness. But most policymakers and funders don't understand the severity of the problem. This session will focus on ways to let them know just how much funding is needed.

#### S1.02 Applying Harm Reduction Principles in Homeless Services

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

##### WORKSHOPS

Harm reduction keeps people safe and connected to larger social support networks. This aligns with the mission of homeless service providers, and it should overlap in the work we do at the community level. Come to this spotlight session to learn about practical ways to engage harm reduction strategies in interactions with clients and engage in discussion on how to connect clients to larger recovery or supportive services when they express interest.

#### S1.03 Housing-Focused Street Outreach: What It Is and Why It Matters

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

##### WORKSHOPS

This session will introduce participants to the core principles and structure of the Alliance's Housing-Focused Street Outreach Framework. Attendees will examine strategies for delivering person-centered, culturally responsive outreach that prioritizes connection to permanent housing. The session will also explore how a systemic, data-informed approach can enhance outreach effectiveness and lead to improved outcomes for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Finally, participants will identify ways to apply the framework in their local communities.

#### S1.04 Transforming Housing Access Through Master Leasing

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

##### WORKSHOPS

As communities work rapidly to effectively rehouse individuals and families experiencing homelessness, innovative approaches like master leasing and flexible rehousing strategies have emerged as powerful tools to overcome housing market barriers. This session will explore practical, scalable solutions to increase housing access, particularly in tight rental markets.

#### S1.05 We've Got an Agenda: What's on the National Alliance to End Homelessness' Policy Priorities List

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

##### WORKSHOPS

What are the most critical policy priorities right now for preventing and ending homelessness? In this session, hear about the Alliance's new policy agenda, and how we developed it through input from a broad range of stakeholders, including community leaders, frontline service providers, researchers, technical assistance providers, and (most importantly), people with former and current lived experience of homelessness. Come hear from Alliance staff about our overarching policy goals and priorities for 2025 and beyond.

#### S1.06 Disaster Preparedness and Homelessness: Strengthening CoC Response Systems

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

##### WORKSHOPS

As natural and environmental disasters become more frequent and severe, Continuums of Care (CoCs) must be prepared to protect individuals experiencing homelessness—those most vulnerable during crises. This session will explore how CoCs can proactively plan for and respond to disasters through coordinated, equity-centered strategies. Participants will learn how to integrate emergency management with homeless response systems, ensure continuity of housing and services during crises, and build partnerships that strengthen disaster resilience across communities.

#### S1.07 Protecting Data: Maintaining Privacy in Data Collection and Preservation

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

##### WORKSHOPS

A growing area of concern across both the public and private sectors is data privacy. When individuals entrust our agencies/organizations with sensitive and personal information, how can we make sure it is properly protected? This session will highlight some important tips.

## **S1.08 Bridging the Divide: Communicating with Lawmakers Across the Aisle on Homelessness Solutions**

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

### **WORKSHOPS**

Homelessness is a growing crisis that transcends political boundaries—but conversations around solutions often stall along partisan lines. This panel will explore how to engage lawmakers in both blue and red states through effective, bipartisan messaging rooted in evidence-based practices. Drawing from real-world legislative successes, cross-sector partnerships, and behavioral insights, panelists will share strategies for finding common ground, framing data in value-aligned ways, and building support for humane, cost-effective policies. Whether advocating for Housing First models, mental health support, or community-based interventions, attendees will leave with practical tools to navigate the political landscape and influence policy at the state and local levels.

## **S1.09 Honoring Sovereignty, Building Solutions: Cross-Sector Partnerships with Tribal Nations**

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

### **WORKSHOPS**

This session will delve into the unique challenges and opportunities of addressing homelessness in Tribal communities. Participants will explore key strategies for building strong, sustainable partnerships with Tribal governments to effectively tackle homelessness. The discussion will focus on aligning resources across various sectors – including government, nonprofit, and private organizations – to enhance Tribal homelessness initiatives. Through real-world examples, attendees will share best practices and lessons learned from successful collaborations between non-tribal organizations and Tribal governments. Learn how these partnerships have fostered a deeper understanding of how to create meaningful, culturally responsive solutions for homelessness in Native communities.

## **S1.10 Converting Empty Office Towers to ELI Housing**

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

### **WORKSHOPS**

Until the 1970s, homeless was rare. One big change since then has been the loss of low-cost housing in America's cities. Our session will explore how converting office buildings into dorm-style micro-apartments can provide cost-effective and deeply affordable housing at scale. Attendees will gain insights into innovative housing solutions, the opportunity to stretch scarce subsidy dollars much further, and the potential to alleviate housing shortages and reduce homelessness.

## **S1.11 Peer Case Management Institute: Using Expertise of People with Lived Experience in Case Management**

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

### **WORKSHOPS**

Create a successful program that trains people with lived experience of homelessness (PLE) to become case managers (CMs) in your CoC.

## **Workshop III**

9:45 AM – 11:00 AM

### **WORKSHOPS**

### **3.01 Changing Demographics: How Do Systems Adapt?**

9:45 AM – 11:00 AM

#### **WORKSHOPS**

In recent years, there has been increasing disproportionality in who experiences homelessness. Learn about the populations experiencing these shifts, and how systems can adjust service responses to meet their unique needs.

### **3.02 Intro to Housing Problem-Solving**

9:45 AM – 11:00 AM

#### **WORKSHOPS**

Housing problem-solving is a flexible strategy that centers the individual (or household) in designing their personalized pathway to housing stability, taking their unique mix of strengths and needs into account. This strategy explores innovative, cost-effective solutions for swiftly resolving housing crises at any stage. In this session, gain insights from communities that have embraced problem-solving as a comprehensive, system-wide approach to preventing and ending homelessness.

### **3.03 Getting RRH Right: Aligning Practice with Evidence-Based, Housing-Focused Strategies**

9:45 AM – 11:00 AM

#### **WORKSHOPS**

Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) remains a cornerstone strategy for helping individuals experiencing homelessness get into housing quickly and sustainably. This session will focus on implementing RRH with fidelity to proven best practices that drive successful housing outcomes. Participants will gain practical tools and strategies to strengthen program design, improve participant engagement, and ensure services are aligned with Housing First principles. The session will highlight real-world examples of how communities have improved RRH performance by centering equity, addressing the needs of unsheltered individuals, and using data to reduce returns to homelessness.

### 3.04 Developing, Sustaining, and Making the Most Out of Public Housing Agency Partnerships

9:45 AM – 11:00 AM

#### WORKSHOPS

Strong partnerships with Public Housing Agencies can provide many opportunities for homeless service systems. These partnerships can help you leverage more permanent housing resources for people experiencing homelessness, inform policies and practices that can streamline move-in processes, and even advocate for policies that can reduce involuntary exits from assisted housing to prevent homelessness. This workshop will explore how homeless service system leaders fostered strong connections with their public housing agencies and what that has allowed them to achieve in reducing homelessness.

### 3.05 Creating Pathways for Black Men in Homeless Services and Leadership

9:45 AM – 11:00 AM

#### WORKSHOPS

This session will examine the disproportionate impact of homelessness on Black men and the systemic barriers to their leadership and representation within the homeless response system. Participants will hear directly from Black male leaders driving change and explore high-level strategies and promising practices to advance inclusion and increase representation in both services and leadership.

### 3.06 Creating Housing Programs That Work for People Who Use Substances

9:45 AM – 11:00 AM

#### WORKSHOPS

To end homelessness, programs need to be accessible to everyone. Too often, people who face challenges with substance use cannot find the care they need. Join system leaders, frontline staff, and lived experts to explore how to create low-barrier programs that can also be safe and accessible for people who are on a recovery journey. Learn about innovative programs and partnerships that expand access to care, especially for people with intersecting, marginalized identities.

### 3.07 Emerging Threats to Medicaid

9:45 AM – 11:00 AM

#### WORKSHOPS

Medicaid is often the primary pathway to essential healthcare and critical services for people experiencing homelessness. This session will examine how new threats to Medicaid jeopardize the health and stability of people without housing, and how weakening Medicaid can undermine efforts to end homelessness. Learn about strategies to advocate for Medicaid policies that promote equitable care and housing stability.

### 3.08 Addressing the Intersection of Homelessness and Immigration

9:45 AM – 11:00 AM

#### WORKSHOPS

Increasingly aggressive immigration policies have forced providers into the hottest-button issue in national politics. Come learn how advocates and communities are responding to recent Executive Orders, ICE raids on shelters, and other concerning developments to ensure that providers and clients know their rights and remain safe and supported.

### 3.09 How to Talk So They'll Listen: Messaging Across Mindsets, Incomes, and Ideologies

9:45 AM – 11:00 AM

#### WORKSHOPS

Public support for homelessness solutions hinges on how messages are framed. New research sheds light on the power and potential of targeted framing. This session will dive into the strategic use of altruistic versus self-benefit messaging—when to emphasize compassion and

collective progress, and when to highlight the tangible benefits to individuals and neighborhoods. Attendees will gain practical insights into crafting messages that resonate with different

groups, overcoming resistance, and driving action for evidence-based housing solutions.

### 3.10 Cultural Practices & Approaches to Housing Native American/Alaskan Natives

9:45 AM – 11:00 AM

#### WORKSHOPS

Mother Nation, an organization that delivers social and cultural healing services for Native women, will explore serving the Indigenous population of Unhoused Relatives vis-a-vis cultural, historical, and intergenerational trauma, understanding multi-level systemic barriers unique to the Native community. This session will highlight the success of supporting by-and-for organizations via flexible funding. By supporting our community's organizations via low-barrier funding, we can sustainably house our People without further exposure to the traumas of being homeless on our own lands and of the system that exacerbates it.

## Transformation Talks III

9:45 AM – 10:45 AM

#### TRANSFORMATION TALKS



## TT7 How Medical Students Can Assist Caseworker Caseloads

9:45 AM – 9:55 AM

### TRANSFORMATION TALKS

Medical students are eager to learn—why not harness that energy to help caseworkers bridge service gaps? This session explores how a Houston student-run clinic trains medical students as resource navigators for people experiencing homelessness. Preliminary data from 23 clients highlight key needs: housing (70%), ID documents (61%), and SNAP access (39%). Among these clients 10 clients (43%) had follow-ups, with 60% successfully accessing resources.

## TT8 How Communities are Utilizing Contingency Management for Meth Use

10:10 AM – 10:20 AM

### TRANSFORMATION TALKS

Overdose deaths from stimulant use (primarily methamphetamine) are on the rise, with a striking impact on adults experiencing homelessness. Learn how communities are using contingency management to respond to the crisis and help people using stimulants pursue sobriety.

## TT9 When Words Speak for the Work

10:35 AM – 10:45 AM

### TRANSFORMATION TALKS

We all believe our work is impactful and important. Yet, if we don't use the most illustrative terms we might not attract the right audience. Join this session to learn more about the types of phrases and content you can use to reach multiple audiences—including your public sector entities. Cohesive messaging is everything, and even nonprofits on a tight budget can message to reach the masses.

## Keynote Plenary

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM | Location: International Ballroom

### PLENARY

## Lunch after Plenary

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM | Location: International Ballroom

## Workshop IV

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

### WORKSHOPS

### 4.01 Identifying and Fixing Barriers to Implementing Permanent Supportive Housing

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

#### WORKSHOPS

Permanent Supportive Housing, when implemented correctly, is the best approach for extending Housing First to people experiencing the most significant challenges. However, far too many providers are not fulfilling the promise of Housing First: clients may not be getting all the services they need or may experience long wait times for housing. In this session, a team from the Corporation for Supportive Housing and the Alliance will highlight what it learned from a year-long effort to gather information from providers, people with lived experience of PSH, and others. They will further invite the audience to contribute to the conversation about how to mobilize PSH to fulfill the promise of Housing First.

### 4.02 Housing People Directly from Encampments

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

#### WORKSHOPS

In the aftermath of the Supreme Court decision on criminalization, communities across the country are working to deploy encampment resolution strategies and reduce unsheltered homelessness using non-punitive approaches. Several communities have successfully implemented a Direct-to-Housing strategy that works to quickly move individuals directly from encampments and into housing. Come and learn how communities collaborated, overcame barriers and successfully implemented this strategy to permanently close encampments.

### 4.03 Solving Family Homelessness: How to Make Progress Despite New and Deepening Challenges

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

#### WORKSHOPS

The lack of affordable housing – combined with precarious income and social supports – threatens housing stability for millions of families and drives more families into homeless service systems. How are localities making progress in meeting families' needs, including threats to social service and housing programs? This workshop will examine increasing challenges of the present moment and share

#### 4.04 How a Workforce with Lived Expertise Drives Change: Exploring the Evidence

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

##### WORKSHOPS

People with lived experience of homelessness do critical work for the homelessness response system. Yet, workers with lived expertise face unique challenges in the workforce. Emerging research demonstrates the urgency with which these challenges must be addressed. Explore the evidence and hear about programs that help identify what policy makers, systems leaders, and people without lived expertise need to do to ensure that people with lived expertise are leading this work.

#### 4.05 Using Data to Understand and Improve Performance

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

Many systems and programs have data that isn't being fully mobilized in their efforts to reduce and end homelessness. Within this session, panelists will offer examples of ways that commonly collected data can inform policy and practice decisions. Time will also be available for the audience members to discuss pressing concerns and practices that they are implementing in their communities.

#### 4.06 Getting Local Officials on Board: Working with the Public Sector to Make Your Case

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

##### WORKSHOPS

Mayors, county commissioners, council members, and governors can have powerful influence with Congress and Legislators. Hear how advocates can ensure that the entire community has a shared message and approach to reaching federal policymakers.

#### 4.07 The Foundation for Rapid Re-Housing: Finding Employment and Securing Earned Income

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

##### WORKSHOPS

The goals of Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) programs, which provide short-term rental assistance and services, are to help people obtain housing quickly, increase self-sufficiency, and stay housed. It's that third goal—staying housed—that can prove the most elusive: too many jobs in the American economy don't pay enough to pay the rent. The most successful RRH programs also help people develop or increase their employment income for transition to unsubsidized permanent housing. Learn the strategies for complementing your RRH program with employment services, identify potential community collaborators, and recognize the challenges to RRH programs.

#### 4.08 Building Cross-Sector Healthcare Partnerships: Expanding Resources, Improving Outcomes

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

##### WORKSHOPS

Addressing homelessness requires more than housing: it demands strategic collaboration across sectors to tackle the complex health, behavioral, and social challenges that individuals and families face. This session will explore innovative approaches to building partnerships with Medicaid agencies, managed care organizations, and healthcare providers. Learn how to align resources, integrate care, and improve outcomes for people experiencing homelessness.

#### 4.09 Call in the Lawyers! Working with Legal Aid to Bridge Advocacy and Litigation

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

##### WORKSHOPS

Litigation on behalf of the rights of people experiencing homelessness has become a more important tool in recent years. Communities get best results when litigation is coordinated with legislative advocacy and effective practices. Hear how the most effective advocates are making these partnerships work.

#### 4.10 State-Level Partnerships to Support Unsheltered Residents

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

##### WORKSHOPS

Come hear about initiatives that you can replicate at the State level, based on recent successes in the State of Illinois. The Illinois Department of Human Rights will discuss their work to strengthen protections for unsheltered residents, post the Supreme Court Grants Pass decision. The Illinois Division of Substance Use and Recovery will discuss their work to build more permanent supportive housing and street outreach, inclusive of utilization of opioid settlement funds to support the work. The Illinois Office to Prevent and End Homelessness will highlight capacity building initiatives in rural Illinois and pilot programs developed to support unsheltered residents.

#### 4.11 EcoRECOVERY Wellness Session

2:00 PM – 3:15 PM

WORKSHOPS

WELLNESS

EcoRECOVERY® is the art of transformational recovery through reconnecting people with lived experience of addiction with the healing benefits of nature. Calm your body and mind and deepen your recovery roots as you pause and rest for this guided meditation session.

##### Speaker



**Dawn Cogliser**

Founder | EcoRECOVERY®

#### Transformation Talks IV

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM | Location: Gunston

TRANSFORMATION TALKS

##### TT10 Feed Your Culture, Keep the Faith

2:00 PM – 2:10 PM

TRANSFORMATION TALKS

In times of scarcity and stress, work culture is one of our most critical assets. Leaders of all levels know that "culture eats strategy for breakfast." What we don't talk about is how a positive work culture nurtures our team's ability to serve our communities effectively and respectfully and how a positive work culture may be the only thing that keeps staff turnover low and spirits high in times of stress and strain. In this session, learn why it's important to feed and nourish your work culture, and how to do it in transparent and powerful ways.

##### TT11 Housing as Harm Reduction

2:25 PM – 2:35 PM

TRANSFORMATION TALKS

Youth experiencing homelessness are subject to increased vulnerabilities, but evidence-based initiatives like Housing First help limit exposure to harm and abuse. In this talk, hear a first-hand account of the how housing can act as direct harm reduction for unsheltered individuals.

##### TT12 The Real Estate Transfer Tax as a Localized Funding Strategy for Housing and Homelessness

2:50 PM – 3:00 PM

TRANSFORMATION TALKS

As cities across the country struggle to balance budgets and secure federal funding, the real estate transfer tax (RETT) — a one-time tax based on a property's value when it changes ownership — has emerged as a possible solution. This talk explores the viability of utilizing progressive RETTs to generate dedicated revenue for affordable housing and homelessness services. Looking to examples from Los Angeles and Chicago, it also covers strategies for organizing successful RETT campaigns at the city level.

#### Workshop V - Skills in Action

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

WORKSHOPS

These hands-on sessions will help you develop skills you can bring back to your community.

##### 5.01 Can We Prevent Homelessness?

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

WORKSHOPS

Research shows the challenge of targeting resources for populations most likely to experience homelessness. This deep-dive session will provide a brief overview of how localities are working to overcome this challenge, and what we know about the continuum of risk for homelessness. Speakers will highlight an array of interventions along that continuum – from upstream eviction prevention to narrowly targeted interventions to the population at most acute risk – that localities are implementing to reduce inflow into homelessness. This session will also discuss intervention points that will have the greatest impact in reducing entries to homelessness.

##### 5.02 Unstick Your System: Opening Housing Opportunities with New Funding and Partnerships

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

WORKSHOPS

With demand for housing far exceeding federal resources, what can homeless system leaders do to free up housing opportunities for the people they serve? In this deep-dive session, leaders will share the strategies they adopted to make the most out of available housing resources and explore the national shortage of housing resources and the populations disproportionately impacted. Learn how successful advocacy efforts and partnerships have allowed leaders to leverage new resources and adapt their systems.

### 5.03 Homeless Simulation Activity: Recalibrating Your CoC to Improve System Performance

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

#### WORKSHOPS

Join Alliance staff in this interactive session to participate in the Homeless System Simulation activity, designed to help communities understand how the homeless assistance system works. Attendees will learn in real time how system-level decisions impact performance and what you can do to right-size your system.

### 5.04 Housing-Focused Case Management During a Nationwide Housing Crisis

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

#### WORKSHOPS

Amid rising housing instability, case managers are often asked to do more with less. They navigate complex systems, manage high caseloads, and respond to urgent client needs, all while staying focused on the goal: permanent housing. This hands-on, interactive session will strengthen participants' core skills in housing-focused case management, with an emphasis on staying effective, efficient, and client-centered during times of housing system strain.

### 5.05 Using Data to Plan for Contingency and Resiliency Planning

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

#### WORKSHOPS

The work to end homelessness can change rapidly, and often without warning. That makes it essential for every provider to have contingency and resiliency plans. Learn how to analyze program data to help get your through abrupt changes that can threaten your programs.

### 5.06 How to Meet Your Lawmakers

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

#### WORKSHOPS

Want to get involved in advocacy, but don't know where to start? Building relationships with your lawmakers is key to creating change. In this session, learn about all the elements associated with meeting with your lawmakers, from planning and scheduling the meeting, to meeting execution, and how to have conversations with your lawmaker. This session will involve role-playing and other interactive activities to help build attendees' skills.

### 5.07 How Media Can Enhance Your Advocacy

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

#### WORKSHOPS

Over the last several years, we've seen the media coverage of homelessness expand dramatically, from local TV news and papers to national media outlets. With the right relationships, consistent messaging, and a proactive strategy, working with the media can be an incredibly effective way to advance your advocacy agenda. Come to this hands-on workshop to learn from experts and practice some of the strategies that will enhance your work moving forward.

### 5.08 The Art of the Two-Pager: Concisely Making Your Case to Solve Homelessness

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

#### WORKSHOPS

Decision-makers often have limited time and understanding of homelessness programs. Two-pagers represent a key "leave-behind" material for meetings with lawmakers so they can more easily discern the issues facing our field and the ways in which they can support our work. Come learn from seasoned advocates the best practices for creating succinct, focused, and professional documents that can be the difference between a funding increase or cut for your program.

### 5.09 Responding in a Crisis: De-escalation and Mental Health First Aid

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

#### WORKSHOPS

Mental health, illness, and disorders (in particular substance use disorder), are often a topic of conversation when people bring up homelessness. This session will explore the realities of behavioral health concerns and give attendees actionable skills for mental health first aid and de-escalation that can be utilized in service provision when necessary.

### 5.10 Disrupting the Homelessness-Criminal Legal System Cycle Through Strategic Partnerships

3:30 PM – 4:45 PM

#### WORKSHOPS

There is a cyclical relationship between homelessness and criminal legal involvement, which disproportionately harms BIPOC communities. In the context of the growing criminalization of homelessness and funding cuts to housing, breaking this cycle is more important than ever. Join us for an interactive session with homelessness system leaders to learn how to leverage partnerships with Public Defenders and Probation Departments to improve Court outcomes, connections to housing, and access to services.

### S5.11 Homelessness in Sweet Home: A Holistic Approach to Rural Homelessness

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM

No one expected that opening Community Court in the city of Sweet Home, OR – just three hours north of Grants Pass, the center of last year's Supreme Court case on criminalizing homelessness – would begin a transformation of how the community views and responds to homelessness. Join Sweet Home's City Manager/Police Chief, Jason Ogden, and Kandyce Stirman, Executive Director of the Family Assistance and Resource Center, to learn how this movement began, the impact of fostering a culture of collaboration in rural communities, and the sheltering/rehousing strategies they've created in the absence of housing subsidies.

### S5.12 Housing UP! in Action: Creating Sustainable Solutions for Permanent Housing

4:30 PM – 5:15 PM

#### WORKSHOPS

How did a small Canadian non-profit re-house over 550 people in under 5 years? This session uses a two-hand stage show to share scalable, adaptable strategies for enhancing housing outcomes. Through compelling storytelling, we'll illustrate real-world challenges, solutions, and the blueprint for success. Join us and learn 'how' you and your teams can overcome barriers, foster partnerships, and create lasting, person-centered housing solutions that can transform your community.

### Alliance Q&A

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM | Location: Columbia 1,2,5

The federal landscape around homelessness and housing is shifting, bringing new challenges that impact our work. In this interactive Q&A session, Alliance leadership will provide updates on key federal policies, funding, and emerging trends. We recognize that many of you have questions about what's changing, what's ahead, and how it affects your efforts. While we may not have every answer, we are committed to holding space for open discussion, shared reflection, and collective problem-solving. Join us to connect, ask questions, and engage in a candid conversation about how our work might change.

### Karaoke & Game Night

6:45 PM – 9:00 PM | Location: International Ballroom

#### NETWORKING

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## Wednesday, July 02, 2025

### Yoga, All Levels

7:00 AM – 7:45 AM | Location: International Terrace

#### WELLNESS

### Networking Breakfast

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM | Location: Terrace & Columbia Foyers

#### NETWORKING

### Round Tables

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

#### NETWORKING

### Registration & Badge Pickup

8:00 AM – 11:00 AM | Location: Concourse Foyer

### Spotlight II

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

#### WORKSHOPS

### S2.01 Using Shallow Rental Subsidies to Promote Housing Stability in Older Adults

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

#### WORKSHOPS

As homelessness among older adults continues to rise, communities are exploring innovative ways to address their housing insecurity. Learn how the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging launched a pilot program providing a \$330 rental subsidy to case-managed clients who are paying more than 50% of their income on rent. The presentation will describe how the shallow subsidies impacted participants' housing stability, financial well-being, overall well-being, and service utilization.

## **S2.02 Lived Experience Leadership Integration Strategies that are Sustainable, Accountable, and Equitable**

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

### **WORKSHOPS**

Lived experience initiatives must always grow and evolve. Now is the time to evolve our efforts and get them to the next level. Learn how communities are incorporating lived experience more intentionally into new spaces and deeper opportunities.

## **S2.03 Shared Housing Works!**

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

### **WORKSHOPS**

In an increasingly tight housing market, more and more people are sharing housing. Shared housing can be a powerful tool for helping more people get housed, but what does it look like in practice? And how do participants benefit from the support and companionship shared housing provides? Learn how to take the first step to implement shared housing in your community.

## **S2.04 Driving Greater Reductions in Vehicular Homelessness: Outreach Strategies for People Living in their Vehicles**

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

### **WORKSHOPS**

Across the country, people are turning to their vehicles as a form of affordable housing or emergency shelter. People living in their vehicles often have unique needs compared to other populations the CoC serves. Come learn from practitioners and researchers on effective outreach strategies and interventions to provide a range of services to people, whether they live in a compact car or an RV.

## **S2.06 Who Do You Have on Speed Dial? Fostering Connections with Policymakers and Change Agents**

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

### **WORKSHOPS**

Strong advocacy demands strong relationships with policymakers. Establishing trust and rapport can enhance your credibility and increase the likelihood that your message will be heard, even by those you do not typically align with. Learn from experienced advocates about the importance of these relationships and strategies for building this trust.

## **S2.07 Navigating Crisis Communications**

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

### **WORKSHOPS**

Are you constantly putting out fires (figuratively, but maybe literally too)? Come learn how providers can manage crisis situations that might otherwise damage your credibility in the community and send local media into a frenzy. Join this session and hear how to navigate these situations with poise and leadership.

## **S2.08 Returning to Home: Building Housing Pathways for Returning Citizens**

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

### **WORKSHOPS**

Criminal legal system involvement can create lasting barriers to housing and stability. Too often, individuals exiting incarceration face an immediate risk of homelessness. This session explores strategies for connecting people to housing, employment, and healthcare, and highlights how communities are partnering across sectors to build supportive reentry pathways.

## **S2.09 Equal Access Means We Serve Everyone**

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

### **WORKSHOPS**

The Equal Access Rule, one of the only sources of federal protections for transgender and gender-expansive people in housing and shelter accommodations, is actively being dismantled by the current administration. Come learn what your community or program can do to ensure that all people can access safe shelter and appropriate housing options. Hear more about inclusive practices that center everyone's safety regardless of the presence or absence of federal protections.

## **S2.10 Landlords Hold the Keys! Engaging the Power of Landlords to End Homelessness**

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

### **WORKSHOPS**

Discover how Albuquerque's Landlord Engagement Program (LEP) is transforming access to housing for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. LEP recruits landlords to rent to PSH voucher holders by offering financial, technical, and social support. It creates strong partnerships between the City, providers, voucher holders, and landlords. This session explores the program's development, lessons learned, data-driven outcomes, and cutting-edge strategies you can implement in your community.

## S2.11 There IS Room at the Inn: How to Become a Low-Barrier Shelter

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

WORKSHOPS

In 2022, MMHSS became only the 5th low barrier shelter in Maine. Today we are the most innovative shelter in the state, with a no turn-away policy, an abundance of animal guests, and a harm reduction approach that has allowed us to reverse almost 50 overdoses a year, all while maintaining a calm, safe, and supportive temporary home for people others leave behind. We wrote a playbook, and we're ready to share so that everyone can find a place at the inn.

## Breathwork Reset

9:35 AM – 9:50 AM | Location: Rest & Reset Lounge

WELLNESS

## Workshop VI

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

WORKSHOPS

### 6.01 Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen: The Role of The Church and Other Black Community Based Institutions in Addressing Homelessness in America

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

WORKSHOPS

Despite being only 13% of the U.S. population, Black people represent 40% of all people experiencing homelessness. Historical, social, economic and systemic racism are all major players, and for centuries, Black faith-based institutions (such as the Black church and other Black community organizations) have been key in buffering such blatantly sanctioned discrimination. Hear from Black leaders across the country on how they are addressing Black homelessness in their communities and bridging those gaps of inequity.

### 6.02 How to Keep Moving Forward: Advancing Your Agenda at the State and Local Level

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

WORKSHOPS

With increased uncertainty on the federal level, local advocacy has never been more important. This session will explore strategies to leverage opportunities at the state and local levels, so that we can continue the work to end homelessness, no matter what's happening in D.C.

### 6.03 Thinking about the Unthinkable: How to Make Tough Choices if Federal Funding is Slashed

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

WORKSHOPS

The federal grants funding freeze and the delayed distribution of FY2024 CoC funding has jolted the field. We can no longer assume funding for federal housing and homelessness programs will increase (even nominally), or even that some of those programs will continue to exist. In this session, learn about the tough choices we may have to make during the next several years and explore strategies for mitigating against harm, so we can keep on serving people who need homeless services.

### 6.04 Cutting Off the Pipeline to Youth Homelessness

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

WORKSHOPS

What does it take to prevent youth homelessness before it starts? And when youth do become homeless, how can we prevent it from happening again? This session will dive into innovative, data-informed strategies communities are using to stabilize young people early and support their long-term self-sufficiency.

### 6.05 You Got This! Effective Case Management Interventions to Build Trust in Rapid Re-Housing Programs

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

WORKSHOPS

Rapid Re-Housing is meant to be a short-term rental assistance program. One main ingredient in the recipe for successful housing stability is the support services that participants receive and openness to engaging with those resources. Learn from RRH case management peers how to sprinkle in encouragement, compassion and accountability through critical time intervention, motivational interviewing, and other trauma-informed care strategies to foster a smooth transition out of RRH and into the next chapter of someone's housing journey.

### 6.06 New Strategies to Address Equity in Homelessness Assessment Tools

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

WORKSHOPS

Intake assessment tools help to connect people experiencing homelessness to the services they need the most. Learn about different strategies that communities are employing to conduct assessments and how they can better address justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion across the people we serve.

### 6.07 Centralizing Landlord Recruitment at the CoC Level

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

#### WORKSHOPS

Landlord recruitment is tough enough to begin with, but it's harder when your Continuum of Care's recruitment efforts aren't coordinated. Learn how to centralize landlord recruitment at the CoC level to streamline your efforts and expand your housing supply.

### 6.08 Taking it to the Streets: Bringing Healthcare to the Most Vulnerable

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

#### WORKSHOPS

Street medicine meets people where they are – literally. This session explores how street medicine breaks down barriers of the traditional healthcare system to deliver compassionate interventions. Learn about models of collaboration between frontline providers, health systems and housing services that are delivering person-centered care to those with the greatest needs and serving as a systems change strategy.

### 6.09 Building Mental Health Partnerships to Serve People Experiencing Homelessness

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

#### WORKSHOPS

This session explores how homelessness response systems can partner with mental and behavioral health agencies to effectively support people with mental or behavioral health diagnoses. Learn how to reduce barriers to care, increase therapeutic support to shelters, and secure mental health funding for outreach, case management, and peer support.

### 6.10 Facilitating Medicaid Payment for Housing Services

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

#### WORKSHOPS

As opportunities grow for covering housing-related services through Medicaid, housing services providers have encountered numerous challenges in getting paid, including duplicate and manual data entry. This session will create space for cross-sector reflection and dialogue. Attendees will learn how to understand how to make receiving Medicaid payments easier through an open-source data model and through approaches for documenting identity and consent developed for health apps.

## Closing Plenary

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM | Location: International Ballroom

### PLENARY

## Lunch after Plenary

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM | Location: International Ballroom

## Sound Bath

1:30 PM – 2:00 PM | Location: Rest & Reset Lounge

### WELLNESS

## Deeper Dives

2:00 PM – 4:30 PM

### DEEPER DIVES

These sessions provide in-depth exploration, discussion, and practical application on homelessness topics.

### Ensuring Everyone's at the Table: Uplifting Black Male Leaders

2:00 PM – 4:30 PM

#### DEEPER DIVES

Black men are disproportionately affected by homelessness, yet they remain significantly underrepresented across all areas of the homeless response field, particularly in leadership roles. This session will take a deep dive into the systemic barriers contributing to this disparity, offering a candid conversation with Black male leaders in the homelessness field. Attendees will explore the critical gaps in services for Black men experiencing homelessness, the persistent underrepresentation of Black men in leadership positions, and actionable strategies for creating leadership opportunities and increasing representation at the decision-making table.

### Making the Case Across the Aisle

2:00 PM – 4:30 PM

#### DEEPER DIVES

Homelessness programs face funding cuts, new restrictions, criminalization policies and more at every level of government. To defend evidence-based practices, this session will help you refine your messaging and strategies to resonate with a wider swath of decision-makers. Come learn from advocates across the country on how to tailor narratives and outreach strategies to secure greater buy-in from lawmakers across the political spectrum in our collective work to solve homelessness.



## **Strategy Session: Working with Progressive Lawmakers**

2:00 PM – 4:30 PM

### **DEEPER DIVES**

Just because a lawmaker is progressive doesn't necessarily mean that they're prioritizing housing and homelessness. Come join peers to brainstorm together on strategies and tactics that you can apply back home to get progressive voices to embrace and support our work.

## **Fund your Mission! How to Prospect, Write, and Manage Grants Successfully**

2:00 PM – 4:30 PM

### **DEEPER DIVES**

This session will include an introduction to the grant lifecycle – from finding and vetting opportunities, narrative writing strategies, and grants management. You will also leave with valuable lessons and tangible tools to help you develop a logic model for your organization and boost your grant writing skills.