The FUSE Model of Supportive Housing: Evidence from the Field Demonstrates Cross System Approach Works to Reduce Recidivism and Improve Lives

Presented By:
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Moderator: Terri Power, CSH
Sunday, November 8
4:45 PM
Arlington
Who’s In the Room?

WHO IS THE COOLEST CAT IN THE ROOM?

I AM
Introducing CSH: What We Do

CSH is a touchstone for new ideas and best practices, a collaborative and pragmatic community partner, and an influential advocate for supportive housing.

Powerful capital funds, specialty loan products and development expertise

Custom community planning and cutting-edge innovations

Research-backed tools, trainings and knowledge sharing

Systems reform, policy collaboration and advocacy
Supportive Housing

Permanent, affordable, independent, tenant centered, flexible, voluntary
The FUSE Model: Frequent Users Systems Engagement
November 2, 2015:
The Obama Administration released a set of new actions to promote rehabilitation and reintegration for the formerly incarcerated...including $8.7 million for a permanent supportive housing Pay for Success demonstration for individuals cycling between criminal justice and homeless service systems.
The Beginning: New York City FUSE

- Demonstration program designed to test whether supportive housing can break cycle of homelessness and incarceration among individuals who are known “frequent flyers” of jail and shelter
- Supportive housing with “front-loaded” intensive case management services for 190 frequent users of jail and shelter, identified through pre-generated data match

Frequent User Case Study

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Neither System
Results from Columbia University’s evaluation of the New York City FUSE program, released in November 2013

- 40% fewer jail days
- 91% fewer shelter days
- 50% fewer psychiatric inpatient hospitalizations (not shown)
- Cost benefit analysis showed $15,000 in savings per client
Re-entry FUSE – Operating
Re-entry FUSE – Significant planning
Health FUSE – Operating
Health FUSE – Significant planning

CSH-Involved Frequent User Initiatives

Re-entry FUSE

- Operating
- Significant planning

Health FUSE

- Operating
- Significant planning

King Co FACT
KCC/SIF
SIF+FUSE/Er
- Just in Reach 2.0
- Project 25

Maricopa Co FUSE

Travis Co BJA

Denver FUSE

NEW – Iowa City FUSE

Chicago FUSE

Louisville ACT

Detroit FUSE

Columbus BJA FUSE

Rhode Island FUSE

CT FUSE

CT SIF

Wash. DC FUSE

MeckFUSE

Nashville FUSE

Tarrant Co.FUSE

Houston 4185 Program

NEW - Miami FUSE

NEW – Hudson Co FUSE

Hennepin Co FUSE

Washtenaw FUSE/SIF

Richmond FUSE

Orlando Hospital FUSE
The FUSE Blueprint

Data-Driven Problem-Solving
- Cross-system data match to identify frequent users
- Track implementation progress
- Measure outcomes/impact and cost-effectiveness

Policy and Systems Reform
- Convene interagency and multi-sector working group
- Troubleshoot barriers to housing placement and retention
- Enlist policymakers to bring FUSE to scale

Targeted Housing and Services
- Create supportive housing and develop assertive recruitment process
- Recruit and place clients into housing, and stabilize with services
- Expand model and house additional clients
Key Components of Model

- Cross-systems, data-driven identification of target population
- Assertive targeting, outreach and recruitment
- Supportive housing
- Enhanced service coordination and care management
- Measure reductions in use and cost effectiveness
The Intersection of Systems

- County Jail
- Homeless/Shelter System
- Behavioral Health System
• Frequent Users Systems Engagement (FUSE) provides affordable, service-supported housing for 45 individuals who are frequent users of the criminal justice and homeless shelter systems and have behavioral health needs.

• Aims to improve the overall quality of life for people who cycle in and out of jail, shelters, and other high-cost public services.
The Road to MeckFUSE

• Adopted and applied Corporation for Supportive Housing’s (CSH) FUSE Model and the Housing First approach as a **jail diversion strategy** for Mecklenburg County.

• Used local tax dollars as the funding source ($881,082).

• Aligned and supported principles set forth in the community’s **10-Year Plan to End Homelessness**.

• Partnered with CSH for technical assistance on local program development.
MeckFUSE: a targeted, system integration

- Data-driven in nature
  - Jail stays
  - Shelter stays
  - Behavioral health issues

- In-Reach efforts
  - Jail
  - Shelters/Street Camps

- Master Leasing Concept

- Housing First approach
Collaborative Partners
The Role of the Jail

• Key stakeholder
• Actively participated in the MeckFUSE program design and implementation processes
  • Identified eligible individuals (i.e., OMS flag)
  • Allowed in-reach
MeckFUSE Performance Highlights

- # of potential participants interviewed = 119
- # of apartments under master lease = 44
- # of participants housed = 43
- # of Service Plans developed = 58
- # of terminations from program = 6 (4)
- # of participant arrests = 27 (12)
- # of participant trips to the emergency room = 38 (17)
- Housing Stability = 88% (90%)
Year 1 MeckFUSE Evaluation

**Client Demographics**

- Face-to-face interviews conducted by UNC Charlotte
- 42 individuals interviewed
  - 47.6% age 45-54
  - 85.7% Male
  - 78.6% African-American
  - 52.4% with less than a High school/GED education
  - 76.2% feel safe in their current housing
  - 71.4% report not using the hospital after placed in current housing
  - 83.3% report not using the ambulance after placed in current housing
  - 64.3% report the need for transportation
MeckFUSE Evaluation continued

Family Relationships:
• 52% changed relationship with family for better
  • Able to see grandchildren
  • Better communication
  • Family proud of him/glad they have their own home

Employment Status:
• Of 32 interviewed, 3 employed
  • 60% are looking for work
• Problems finding work:
  • Age
  • Lack of experience/education
  • Criminal history
• 6 attended school last year
  • Trucking & community college
“MeckFUSE in Mecklenburg County, a Housing First FUSE Model”

MeckFUSE Video

Caption: Client of MeckFUSE program. Picture provided by Urban Ministry Center.
Benefits of Programs to Local Community

• Improves Safety and Security for vulnerable

• Generates Cost Savings through Diversion from Expensive Resources such as jail, hospitals and shelters

• Breaks the cycle of incarceration and homelessness

• Works with clients where they are

• Adds stability through “wrap-around” support services
Contact Information

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Questions