

Homelessness and Mental Health: Part 2. The Impact of Housing Interventions

Lilanthi Balasuriya, M.D., and Lisa B. Dixon, M.D., M.P.H.

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This second installment of a double collection on homelessness and mental health focuses on the impact of housing interventions for individuals experiencing homelessness. Homelessness disproportionately affects vulnerable populations, including individuals with mental health conditions. This collection identifies evidence-based interventions that target homelessness and associated adverse outcomes. Articles examine Housing First, a recovery-oriented approach to housing that has been shown to improve quality of life and reduce service utilization for individuals experiencing homelessness, as well as combinations of Housing First paired with assertive community treatment (ACT) models for patients with serious mental illness. Additionally, the impact of supportive housing on mental health and social relationships, shared housing approaches, and factors associated with exiting housing are reviewed. Finally, the collection offers pieces that explore the importance of addressing the housing, mental health, and social needs of youths experiencing homelessness. Individuals experiencing homelessness and mental illness face unprecedented challenges that warrant evidence-based interventions to advance both the care and health of our patients and communities.

THE IMPACTS OF HOUSING FIRST

Articles

Trajectories of Homeless Shelter Utilization in the At Home/Chez Soi Trial of Housing First

Chu CMT, Moodie EEM, Streiner DL, et al.
Psychiatr Serv 2020; 71:648–655

Articles

Cost-Effectiveness of Housing First With Assertive Community Treatment: Results From the Canadian At Home/Chez Soi Trial

Latimer EA, Rabouin D, Cao Z, Ly A, et al.
Psychiatr Serv 2020; 71:1020–1030

Article

Effects of Housing First on Employment and Income of Homeless Individuals: Results of a Randomized Trial

Poremski D, Stergiopoulos V, Braithwaite E, et al.
Psychiatr Serv 2016; 67:603–609

Article

Associations of Housing First Configuration and Crime and Social Connectedness Among Persons With Chronic Homelessness Histories

Whittaker E, Flatau PR, Swift W, et al.
Psychiatr Serv 2016; 67:1091–1097

Articles

Fidelity to the Housing First Model and Variation in Health Service Use Within Permanent Supportive Housing

Gilmer TP, Stefancic A, Henwood BF, et al.
Psychiatr Serv 2015; 66:1283–1289

Brief reports

Willingness of Housing First Participants to Consider Supported-Employment Services

Poremski D, Hwang SW
Psychiatr Serv 2016; 67:667–670

HOUSING FIRST MODELS WITH ASSERTIVE COMMUNITY TREATMENT

Article

One-Year Outcomes of a Randomized Controlled Trial of Housing First With ACT in Five Canadian Cities

Aubry T, Tsemberis S, Adair CE, et al.
Psychiatr Serv 2015; 66:463–469

IMPACTS OF HOUSING ON MENTAL HEALTH OUTCOMES

Article

Housing Programs for Homeless Individuals With Mental Illness: Effects on Housing and Mental Health Outcomes

Benston EA
Psychiatr Serv 2015; 66:806–816

Article**Life Changes Among Homeless Persons With Mental Illness: A Longitudinal Study of Housing First and Usual Treatment**

Nelson G, Patterson M, Kirst M, et al.
 Psychiatr Serv 2015; 66:592–597

Brief reports**Impact of Supported Housing on Social Relationships Among Homeless Veterans**

O'Connell MJ, Kaspro WJ, Rosenheck RA
 Psychiatr Serv 2017; 68:203–206

SHARED HOUSING APPROACHES**Frontline reports****Opening More Doors to End Homelessness Through a Shared Housing Approach**

Brown M
 Psychiatr Serv 2016; 67:1161

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH EXITING SUPPORTIVE HOUSING**Article****Factors Associated With Premature Exits From Supported Housing**

Gabrielian S, Burns AV, Nanda N, et al.
 Psychiatr Serv 2016; 67:86–93

MEETING THE HOUSING, MENTAL HEALTH, AND SOCIAL NEEDS OF YOUTHS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS**Special article****Addressing Intersecting Social and Mental Health Needs Among Transition-Age Homeless Youths: A Review of the Literature**

Winiarski DA, Glover AC, Bounds DT, Karnik NS
 Psychiatr Serv 2021; 72:317–324

Articles**The Unique Needs of Homeless Youths With Mental Illness: Baseline Findings From a Housing First Trial**

Kozloff N, Stergiopoulos V, Adair CE, et al.
 Psychiatr Serv 2016; 67:1083–1090

Articles**Fidelity of a Strengths-Based Intervention Used by Dutch Shelters for Homeless Young Adults**

Krabbenborg MAM, Boersma SN, Beijersbergen MD, et al.
 Psychiatr Serv 2015; 66:470–476