The Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness (AKCH2) is a statewide organization working to develop strategies to increase the availability of affordable housing and eliminate homelessness in our great state.
Key Partnerships

• Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness
• Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
• Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority
• Institute for Community Alliances
• Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
• HUD Field Office
• Governor’s Council on Homeless
• Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness
• KTOO/360 North

Coalition Focus

2012
The Coalition added language to its bylaws to carry out the day to day management of the Balance of State Continuum of Care.
Continuum of Care

Coalition Focus

Reliable and Useful Data
• AKCH2 & ACEH Jointly responsible for governance of Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

• Institute for Community Alliances (ICA) is the HMIS Lead Organization for Alaska
  – Responsible for day-to-day management of the system
  – Really, really awesome people

HMIS Universal Data Elements are elements required to be collected by all projects using the software as an HMIS. By 10.01.2017 *, the UDEs include:

- Name
- Date of Birth
- Ethnicity
- Veteran Status
- Project Start Date
- Destination
- Client Location
- Living Situation
- Social Security Number
- Race
- Gender
- Disabling Condition
- Project Exit Date
- Relationship to Head of Household
- Housing Move-In Date
Great Alaskan Data Renaissance

• Previous HMIS Issues
  – Limited Number of Users
  – Data Quality
  – Data Completeness
  – Reporting Limitations

Since June 2015
• More than Doubled the Amount of User Licenses
• Hundreds of User Trainings
• Data Completeness Standard Grade F → A
Coalition Focus

Public Facing Data

Resources

Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness

Alaska Homelessness Data

POINT IN TIME COUNT

- 2017 Point in Time Count Results
- 2017 All Release of State Point in Time - Additional Data Points
- 2017 Anchorage Point in Time - Additional Data Points

HOUSING INVENTORY CHART

- 2017 All Release of State Housing Inventory Chart
- 2017 Anchorage Housing Inventory Chart

PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT

- 2017 Project Homeless Connect Results

COMMUNITY SYSTEM MAPS

- State Release of Data
- Anchorage
- Juneau
- Kotzebue
Every Person Counts.
Count Every Person.

Point in Time Count
January 23, 2018

Project Homeless Connect
January 24, 2018

Think About:
Youth Count, Strategic
Partnerships, Coordinated Entry,
How to Utilize Data

Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness

Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness
Housing First

ALASKAHOUSING-HOMELESS.ORG
Core Philosophies

• Homelessness should be rare, brief, and non-reoccurring

• Housing is an essential component of healthcare

• Barriers to accessing safe housing should be eliminated
  - Sobriety requirements
  - Participation in services
  - Income status
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Housing First Models

• Permanent Supportive Housing
  • It's Permanent!
  • Tenants typically have leases
  • Services are sometimes co-located, but not required
• Congregate vs. Scattered Site
• Targets Individuals who are highly vulnerable

• Rapid Rehousing
  • Temporary assistance
  • Supports to stabilize housing crisis
  • Targets individuals who are less vulnerable

Housing First Research

• Significant evidence that Housing First Works:
  • Reduces homelessness (Palepu, 2013; Tsemberis, 2000, Gulcur, 2003)
  • Reduces hospital utilization among individuals with persistent mental illness & problems with substance abuse & addiction (Cochrane-Stergiopoulos, 2015; Fitzpatrick-Lewis, 2011; Montgomery, 2013; Nelson, 2007)
  • Improves housing stability for people with mental disorders (Stergiopoulos, 2015; Palepu, 2013; Tsemberis, 2000)
  • Advances mental health and well-being (Nelson, 2007; Tsemberis, 2012)
• Significant evidence that Housing First Works:
  • Increases treatment for substance abuse and addiction (Nelson, 2007; Tsemberis, 2000)
  • Decreases utilization of psychiatric hospitals for formerly homeless individuals with mental illness (Gulcur, 2003)
  • Program participants report significantly higher quality of life than non-participants (Patterson, 2013)
  • Substance use declines among program participants (Kirst, 2015)

• Economic Benefits:
  • Decreases cost to shelters (Stergiopoulos, 2015; Ly, 2015)
  • Decreases costs to emergency departments (Ly, 2015)
  • RRH linked with cost reductions associated with hospitalizations and treatment for individuals with persistent mental illness & substance abuse problems (Srebnik, 2013; Urban-Cunningham, 2009)
  • Housing First programs generally cost less than programs that require sobriety or treatment prior to providing housing (Gulcur, 2003)
Multiple funding streams are prioritizing Housing First models, particularly HUD.
Also prioritizing applicants that allocate beds specifically for individuals who are chronically homeless.
- Individuals who are currently residing in a place not meant for human habitation or emergency shelter.
- Continuously homeless for 12 months or have had 4 instances of homelessness over last 3 years totaling 12 months.
- Diagnosed SUD, SMI, Developmental Disability, Physical Disability, or TBI.

Karluk Manor (Anchorage)
TCC Housing First (Fairbanks)

Permanent Supportive Housing in AK

- UAA Permanent Supportive Housing Evaluation (AHFC/AMHTA Funded)
  - Released May 2017
  - Clients from Karluk Manor & TCC Housing First
  - Compared client health outcomes before/after moving into PSH (2012-2014)
    - Contrasted with control group
- Average participant
  - 50 years old, male, high school diploma or GED
  - Born in Alaska
  - Multiple chronic conditions + long-term struggles with alcohol
Permanent Supportive Housing in AK

Key Findings:
- Significant decline in alcohol consumption after moving into PSH
- After one year, tenants reported:
  - Higher levels of engagement within the community
  - Fewer symptoms of depression
  - Lower levels of pain
- Increased case management had positive influence on tenant participation in services and non-alcohol related recreation

Key Findings:
- Tenants had decreases in all emergency service utilization compared to the year before move-in
  - Utilization rate remained at lower rate in second year of tenancy
- Jail nights decreased, but not significantly
  - Primarily due to previous arrests
Forget Me Not Manor (Juneau)

Coordinated Entry
Coordinated Entry

- Access
- Assessment
  - Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool 2.0 (VI-SPDAT 2.0)
    - Physical/Mental/Behavioral Health Risks
    - Service Utilization
    - Barriers to Housing
- Prioritization
  - Communitywide
- Referral
  - Objective
The Path Forward

Increase Capacity of Continuum of Care

Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness

Year-Round Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing, and Permanent Supportive Housing Beds Per Capita by Census Area

According to the 2015 Housing Inventory Count, 16 of the 29 Census Areas in Alaska have no year-round Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, or Permanent Support Housing Facilities.
According to the 2015 Housing Inventory Count, 14 of the 39 Census Areas in Alaska have no year-round Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, or Permanent Support Housing Facilities.
Housing Instability

Forms of Housing Instability

- Homelessness
- High Housing Costs Relative to Income
- Overcrowding
- Poor Housing Quality
- Multiple Moves

Are Associated With...

Health Risks for Children
- General Poor Health
- Asthma
- Low Weight
- Developmental Delays
- Increased Lifetime Risk of Depression

Health Risks for Adults
- Reduced Access to Care
- Postponing Needed Health Care
- Postponing Needed Medications
- Mental Distress
- Difficulty Sleeping
- Incidents of Depression

Source: Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.

ALASKAHOUSING-HOMELESS.ORG
Opportunities

- Inter-Agency Policy Coordination
  - Funders Collaborative
  - Guidebook for Communities
  - Legislative Committee on Housing
  - 1115 Waivers
  - Medicaid Innovative Accelerator Program
In three years through sustainable private and public partnerships, Alaska will establish a pipeline to provide permanent supportive housing for an additional 250 of the most at risk individuals and their families.

### Primary Drivers

1. **Establish a variety of funding sources for services to increase access to supporting housing settings that are flexible, sustainable, and tailored to individual needs.**
2. **Improve and redesign services to meet the needs of the target population.**
3. **Strengthen the capacity of community providers and their workforce to deliver home- and community-based housing services.**

### Secondary Drivers

- **Coordinate PSH and supportive service policy and provision.**
- **Increase the production and supply of permanent supportive housing.**
- **Establish a pipeline to create between 400 and 500 PSH opportunities from 2015-2020.**
- **Establish a PSH pipeline to provide permanent support housing.**
- **Maximize Medicaid coverage of services through use of the 1115 Behavior Health Demonstration waiver.**
- **Leverage Alaskan Native services capacity.**
- **Develop a Funders Collaborative to create a seamless PSH funding process.**
- **AHFC and DHSS to develop PSH Clearinghouse to coordinate referral and supportive service provision.**
- **Identify excelling providers to service as role models, system champions, and peer provider coaches.**
- **Develop PSH certification requirement for providers receiving state, federal, or Trust funds.**
- **Create support service crosswalk.**
- **Create a PSH service through Medicaid.**
- **Expand service delivery in home- and community-based settings to promote housing stability and community integration.**
- **Adapt home- and community-based services and delivery to meet the needs of those living in rural and remote Hub and village communities.**
- **Develop a plan and governance model to coordinate access and services between AHFC and DHSS.**
- **Develop data matching and a data warehouse to inform PSH planning.**
- **Establish a PSH pipeline to create between 400 and 500 PSH opportunities from 2015-2028.**
- **Leverage Alaskan Native housing capacity.**
- **Develop coordinated and consistent policies and procedures related to housing and related services across DHSS Divisions.**
- **Increase the production and supply of permanent supportive housing.**
- **Strengthen the capacity of community providers and their workforce to deliver home- and community-based housing services.**

### AIM

- **Coordinate PSH and supportive service policy and provision.**
- **Increase the production and supply of permanent supportive housing.**
- **Establish a pipeline to create between 400 and 500 PSH opportunities from 2015-2020.**
- **Establish a variety of funding sources for services to increase access to supporting housing settings that are flexible, sustainable, and tailored to individual needs.**
OUR MISSION
is to END
HOMELESSNESS
IN ALASKA