# Reducing Costs/Utilization of Homeless and High-Risk Populations

Charlene Flaherty, Director Southwest January 20, 2016



# About CSH

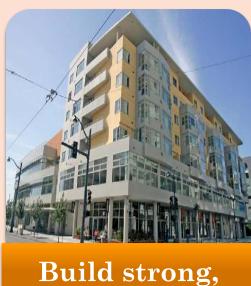
# Advancing housing solutions that:



Improve lives of vulnerable people



Maximize public resources



healthy communities



# Housing is Healthcare



- Homelessness = high risk for poor health
- Poor health = high risk for homelessness
- Homelessness complicates efforts to treat illnesses and injuries

Source: National Healthcare for the Homeless Council, "Housing is Health Care", 2011

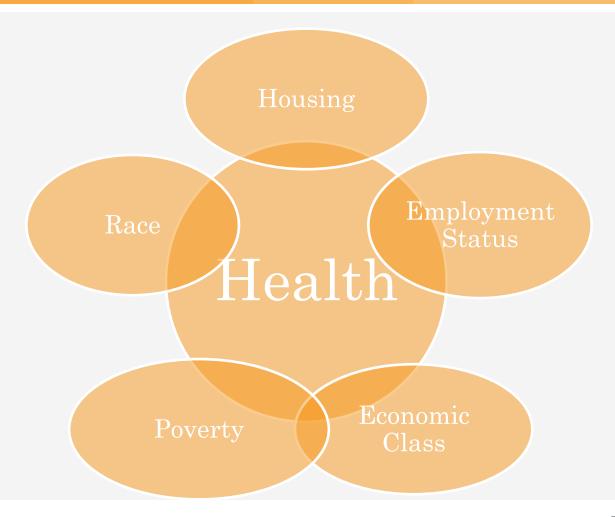


# Housing is the Best Medicine





# Social Determinants of Health





# Housing as a Social Determinant

- The lack of housing itself dictates health outcomes for homeless, chronically ill populations.
  - Lack of community based housing has a disproportionately negative impact on health and the health system vs. other social determinants of health



# Supportive Housing is the Foundation for Health



Prevents onset of new illness and injury

Improves access to high-quality, coordinated health/behavioral health care and other critical social services

Promotes lifestyle behaviors that lead to good health



### Health Care Utilization

- High levels of emergency department use
  - Rates 8.5 times low-income but not homeless (*Hwang*, et al. 2013)
  - □ Homelessness prevalent among "super users" (Doran, et al. 2013)
- High rates of hospitalizations
  - Rates 4 times low-income but not homeless (AJPH 2013)
- High health care spending



# Intersection of Health and Housing



Source: UnitedHealthcare & Corporation for Supportive Housing Housing and Healthcare Webinar Series



### FUSE Problem Statement

- Local health providers recognized subset of homeless population utilizing disproportionate share of hospital/emergency care services.
- Target population difficult to engage and may not be captured in coordinated entry process.



### Root Causes

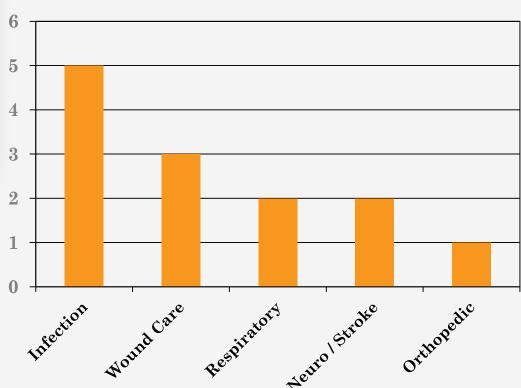
Root Causes of Cycling In and Out of Emergency Services

- Presumptive diagnosis/labeling
- Trauma/injury
- Poor health work-ups
- Medication non-compliance
- Self medicating
- Chronic medical conditions
- Exacerbation of chronic disease
- Substance use
- Primary care system not responsive to population/issues



# Acute Illness / Injury

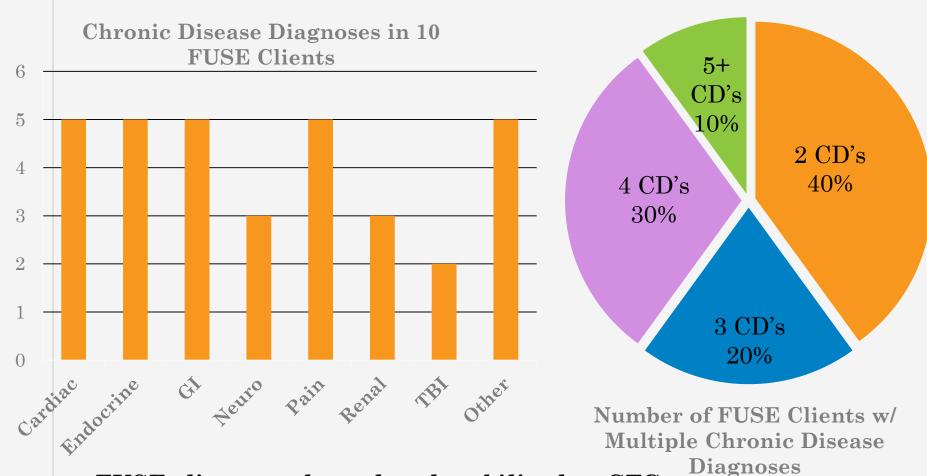




Most patients had one or more acute conditions that were addressed at the Medical Respite Center.



# Prevalence of Chronic Disease



FUSE clients evaluated and stabilized at CTC had multiple chronic disease diagnoses. The majority had 3 or more.



# Intervention

- Engagement
- Diagnosis/Medical Stabilization
- Supportive Housing



# Case Study – Stephen

- History of morbid obesity, hypertension, kidney disease and blood clots in legs
- Admitted to hospital with new episode of leg infection requiring surgery
- Developed blood clots in both lungs, requiring blood thinning medications
- Had to go back to surgery again, large wounds in legs couldn't be closed and had to heal slowly
- Recovery complicated by depression
- Discharged after wounds healed to Permanent Supportive Housing as part of FUSE project



### FUSE Evaluation/Outcomes

#### Data

- Self Sufficiency Matrix
- Hospital Financial Data
- Jail Data

#### Results

- □ 47.2% Reduction Inpatient Days
- 36.6% Reduction Inpatient Costs
- □ 73% Reduction ER Visits
- □ 74.7% Reduction ER Costs
- □ 100% Reduction Jail Days



### Identification

#### What we did

Compiled hospital cost data

Cross-referenced health data with HMIS

Refined targeted- user list

Attempted to leverage hospital information systems to flag targeted individuals

MOU/ROI to share identified clients w/ Continuum of Care

#### What we learned

Multi sources difficult to access and compile

Labor intensive

List needs to be larger than target number

Hospital information systems (finance, intake) don't speak to each other; no functional ability to flag individuals

Link w/ Continuum health services to share information



# Success in Housing

- Prioritizing housing supports in terms of medical needs
- Ownership of health navigation responsibility
- Alignment with local health resources – FQHC's, CHC's, HCH, Behavioral Health, etc.
- Importance of immediate placement – bridge housing may be necessary
- Clients may be too ill for direct placement in PSH







# Addressing The Housing Needs of Individuals and Families Across the Service Delivery System

Tad D. Gary, MEd, MA, CRC, LPC Chief Clinical Officer







# **Brief Overview of Housing Services** and Supports



# Housing Subsidies

Covering the Costs of Rents

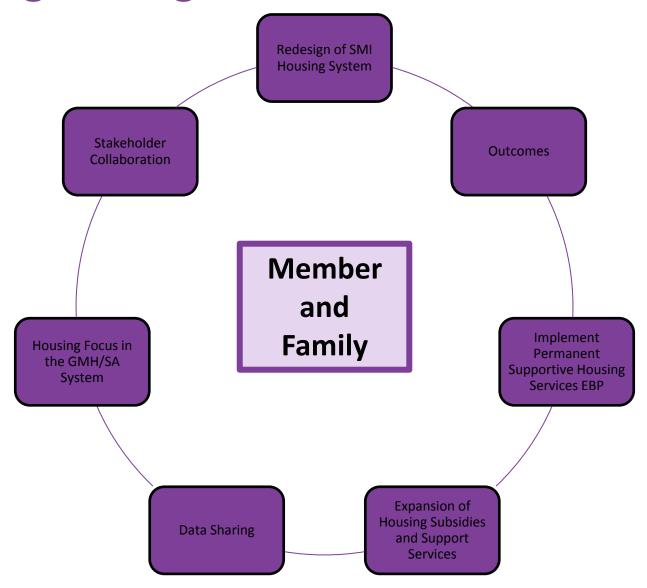
# Housing Support Services



Covered Support Services (e.g. navigation, case management, Independent Living Skills, and etc.)

Flex Funds (e.g. utility startup, deposits, housing supplies and etc.)

# **Housing Strategic Plan Activities**



# **Housing Strategic Plan Activities**

### Redesign of the SMI Housing System

- Consultation with WICHE to facilitate process and develop comprehensive plan
- Assess gaps in the system, current programs and ease of access to services and supports

### Expansion of Housing Subsidies and Support Services

- Expanded the Scattered Site PSH program by 700 new subsidies
- 200 additional PSH Services were provided to members in their own home in the community who needed additional support
- Mercy Maricopa implemented the Temporary Housing Assistance Program

# **Housing Strategic Plan**

# Implementing Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Services Evidence Based Practice (EBP)

- Consistent review of PSH activities
- Improvement plan to assist providers in implementing PSH EBP

### GMH/SA Focus

- Collaborations with community partners to increase housing options for members that are viewed as high cost/high need and homeless
- New partnerships to provide PSH services to support GMH/SA members in accessing and maintaining housing

# **Housing Strategic Plan Activities**

### Stakeholder collaboration

- Collaboration with community providers, such as the Housing Continuum of Care and Valley of the Sun United Way
- Leverage housing subsidies and matching covered support services
- Implement the VI-SPDAT within Mercy Maricopa and support service providers to assist in determining needed housing intervention
- Participate in the Community-Wide coordinated entry process

### Data sharing

Develop and/or enhance data sharing agreements with stakeholders

#### Outcomes

- Defined outcomes
- Value-based contracting

# GMH/SA Innovative Network Expansion Programs



#### **Program Goal:**

Keep members healthy and stabilized by managing the full spectrum of care and addressing members and families social determinants of health

### **Target Populations for CCHP**

- 1. High frequency crisis and inpatient utilization
- 2. High risk of recidivism due to untreated behavioral health concerns
- 3. Frequent or potential interactions with emergency first responders
- 4. Inadequate or at risk living environments
- 5. Lack of social supports
- 6. Chronic medical conditions

**Comprehensive Community Health Program** (CCHP) **Crisis** Intervention Case Transporta-Management tion Members/ **Families** Peer Support **Psychiatric Services** Housing **Counseling Support Services** 

# **CCHIP** and Housing

### **Housing Subsidies / Start up Funding**

### **Permanent Supportive Housing Program Partners:**

- La Frontera EMPACT
- Community Bridges
- City of Phoenix
- United Way

### **Target Population:**

Chronically Homeless Population

### Number of members housed since 4/1/15:

107

# Number of members in process of being housed since 4/1/15:

• 77



# **Thank You**