SETTING THE STAGE
TODAY’S ROUNDTABLE ACTIVITY

1. Break into small groups
2. Identify challenges
3. Discuss best practices and effective approaches
4. Share policy alternatives
PROBLEM SOLVING TO END HOMELESSNESS

Client strengths & priorities

Program resources, knowledge & skills

Community resources

Focus on ending homelessness
PROBLEM SOLVING TO END HOMELESSNESS

Individualized Assistance

- Start with the least amount of services and assistance necessary
- Frequently re-assess housing barriers and provide targeted support
- Always look for options that are sustainable beyond the RRH program
COC’S POLICIES AND STANDARDS FOR ADMINISTERING RRH ASSISTANCE

Principles

- Rent and move-in assistance will be flexible and tailored to the varying and changing needs of a household while providing the assistance necessary for households to move immediately out of homelessness and to stabilize in permanent housing.

- All RRH programs will make efforts to maximize the number of households they are able to serve by providing households with the financial assistance in a progressive manner, providing only the assistance necessary to stabilize in permanent housing.

RRH programs will provide “the least amount of assistance for the least amount of time,” while ensuring that enough is provided to be reasonably sure that the housing will “stick” and the assisted household does not return to homelessness.
What makes the difference?

- Support networks and/or a safety net
- Life skills that allow individuals and families to operate independently
- Income (employment, education, public benefits, or a combination)
- Client choice and client-driven solutions
WHAT DOES FLEXIBLE & INDIVIDUALIZED LOOK LIKE?

- Housing options
- Length and amount of rental assistance
- Type, duration, and depth of services
- Level of case management engagement

➢ What else?
PLANNING FOR FLEXIBILITY

**Goals**

- Identify service connections to meet client’s needs
- Adjust length & amount of RA based on the client’s need
- Tailor case management to the client’s needs
- Housing stability for high percentage of clients served
- Engage and retain landlords

**Challenges**

- Creating a budget before you know what clients will need
- Creating a staffing plan before you know what clients will need
- Tracking spend-down as client needs fluctuate
- Running out of money
- Under-spending
HOUSING STRATEGIES

- Systematize Housing-Focused CM
- Unit location & retention
- Housing outside the box
- Reducing expenses
- Supporting savings
- Life skills & knowledge
- Safety net/support system
- Client Choice
WHAT IS SHARED HOUSING?

Two or more people living in a permanent rental unit, sharing housing costs

• Multi-bedroom apartment
• Single family house
• Two or more RRH clients
• RRH clients and housed family or friends
• RRH clients and roommates
SHARED HOUSING

**Advantages**
- Increased housing options
- Reduction of rent burden
- Help with childcare
- Increased social connections
- Support with shared goals
- Assistance with disability

**Challenges**
- Interpersonal issues
- Landlord challenges
- Filling vacancies
FUNDING CONSIDERATIONS

- Who has to be on the lease? Are there other lease requirements?
- Who needs to be eligible for the program? Who doesn’t?
- How do rent limitations apply?
- How do you calculate the client’s portion of rent?
Questions?

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