

THE INTERSECTION OF HOUSING AND HEALTH

2015 Arise Policy Conference

Agenda



1. Current HIV Housing Research
2. New Opportunities for HIV/AIDS Housing: Health, Housing, and Other Approaches Through ACA
3. HIV Housing and Health on a Local Level
4. Rural Supportive Housing Initiative
5. Impacting Mental Health through Housing
6. Q&A

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Welcome and Introductions

Today's Panel



- Lauren Banks, AIDS Alabama
- Alison Goodwyn, Collaborative Solutions, Inc.
- Ashley Kerr, Collaborative Solutions, Inc.
- Crystal Pope, Collaborative Solutions, Inc.
- Courtney Tarver, Department of Mental Health

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Current HIV Housing Research

Collaborative Solutions, Inc.

Understanding Housing Need Among Persons Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA)

- At the end of 2010, the CDC reported there were **872,990** PLWH and **487,692** PLWA.
- As many as **70%** of all PLWHA experience homelessness or housing instability in their lifetime.

Understanding Housing Need Among PLWHA cont.

- The HIV/AIDS housing studies have shown that PLWHA with low educational attainment, low incomes, and living in a impoverished areas are more likely to be unstably housed.

Homeless or unstably housed PLWHA are *more likely to*

- Be victims of physical abuse
- Share unclean needles
- Participate in sex exchange
- Suffer from alcohol abuse and depression

Why HIV/AIDS Housing?

- Housing is a basic human need.
 - ▣ Food, housing, and clothing must be met before addressing other social or individual needs.
- Housing is a right.
 - ▣ “everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and his family, including food, clothing, housing, and medical care and necessary social services”
- Housing is health care.

Housing is Health Care

- Researchers have shown that housing is an effective structural intervention.
 - ▣ Housing reduces HIV risk and improves health outcomes among PLWHA.
- Researchers have also found a positive relationship between stable housing and access to care and maintenance of care.
- Unmet housing needs are a significant barrier to accessing and maintaining appropriate HIV medical care.

Housing is Health Care cont.

- Housing assistance increased access to and retention of medical care among PLWHA.
- Access to adequate housing significantly affects the health of individuals at risk of or living with HIV. The lack of housing is an environmental influence as it interacts with other risk factors such as
 - ▣ Substance use,
 - ▣ Risky sexual and injection practices,
 - ▣ Sexual abuse,
 - ▣ Physical violence, &
 - ▣ Sex work.

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New Opportunities for HIV/AIDS Housing: Health, Housing, and Other Approaches Through ACA

Collaborative Solutions, Inc.

How does ACA impact PLWHA?

- *Increases access to care for PLWHA,*
- *Invests in preventative care, and*
- *Aims to reduce HIV-related disparities.*

- Most PLWHAs have access to health insurance either through Medicaid or insurance exchanges.
 - ▣ Many PLWHA with Medicaid coverage will enroll in Medicaid managed care plans, so it will be important for ASOs to be in the Medicaid managed care plan networks.
 - ▣ Ryan White will remain the “Payer of Last Resort”

Supportive Housing Possibilities: Home & Community Based Services

□ 1915(i) State Plan HCBS

- Allows states to expand services covered under this option
 - Services may be a good match with services offered in a supportive housing environment
- Can target specific chronic conditions

□ Section 1115 Demonstrations

- Allows states to test new ideas for financing and delivering care

Example

State of Illinois' 1115 Waiver

- Expand eligibility
- Provide services not typically covered by Medicaid such as supportive housing
- Use innovative service delivery system

Supportive Housing Possibilities: Health Homes

□ Health Homes

- Encompass a range of services designed to help manage care for those who are chronically ill and are important for people with HIV, such as comprehensive care management and care coordination.
- Supportive housing providers can partner with other providers to provide whole-person, coordinated care to people with HIV through a health home.

Supportive Housing Possibilities: Health Homes cont.

- Why Should Providers Consider This Partnership?
 - HH services are similar to those already provided by supportive housing providers (e.g. case management, health promotion)
 - New source of funding for supportive housing services
 - Streamlines eligibility/funding for team-based care models
 - Integrates primary and behavioral health services



HIV Housing and Health on a Local Level

AIDS Alabama

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Rural Supportive Housing Initiative

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RSHIA background

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- Incredible affordable housing shortage in Alabama and the Southeast for low-income persons, including those living with HIV/AIDS
- Rural service providers need more housing options for their clients but often do not have the time or capacity to create housing opportunities
- Rural providers have seen a sharp increase in housing needs (rent and utility assistance) as a result of economic downturn

Lessons from the Peer Network

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- Capacity Building
 - ▣ Agencies often report being too busy to develop strategic plans
 - ▣ Organizations **must** assess themselves prior to housing development
 - ▣ Board involvement is critical and can alter the agency's housing plan
 - ▣ Staffing is critical, especially with housing development
 - ▣ Partnering for capacity can really help
 - ▣ Agency culture will often change once housing is offered as a service

Why the Peer Network works...

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- Rapport building on the front end with each ASO (lunches, phone calls, site visits)
- Common goal to improve housing options for clients
- Sometimes it's easier to hear from peers about things they can do to improve their agencies than from a consultant (and vice versa)
- Advocacy network – 3 voices are louder than 1
- Whoever is lagging behind gets taken to task by peers

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Impacting Mental Health through Housing

Department of Mental Health



Hearing From You

Hearing From You

Advocacy – overcoming
policy barriers and lack of
funding

Connecting individuals –
health & housing



Access – increasing
collaboration and access to
services

Outcomes – promoting
individual and
organizational outcomes

How are you overcoming your
local challenges?

Resources

- Healthcare.gov is the US government's portal to all health care reform activities under ACA.
- AIDS.gov is the US government's portal to all Federal HIV policies, programs, and resources.
- OneCPD.info/aca/ is HUD's project to provide HUD grantees and clients state and territory profiles, resource library, and ACA implementation guidance.
- HIVHealthReform.org is AIDS Foundation of Chicago's project that provides customized information on ACA for persons living with HIV/AIDS and their providers.
- CareActTarget.org is the central source of TA and training resources for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program.
- kff.org/health-reform/ is the Kaiser Family Foundation health reform portal that provides up to date state information and resources on Federal HIV policies and programs.