

Los Angeles Continuum of Care Homeless Family Solutions System

Changing the Way Homeless Families Access Housing Supports



LAHSA

Region IX State & Territory TANF
Technical Assistance Meeting
September 16-17, 2014

Mission Statement

The mission of the Homeless Family Solutions System is to create a seamless, cooperative system of service delivery for homeless and at-risk families throughout LA County to reduce the overall impact of homelessness and the number of families who experience homelessness.

Vision

- No family goes unsheltered
- Reduce the length of time families experience homelessness to less than 45 days
- Coordination of community-based resources will support families to rapidly re-enter permanent housing
- The needs of homeless families are met using a system of care that is a network of service providers that covers all of Los Angeles County

System History

- Coordinated assessment system required by HEARTH Act
- Built upon lessons learned from 10+ years of family services
 - Homeless CalWORKs Families Project
 - Skid Row Assessment Team
 - Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing
 - Families in Transitions Project
- Integration of three programs
 - Homeless CalWORKs Families Project
 - DPSS Emergency Shelter Services
 - Family Solutions Centers

Guiding Principles

Principle	Goal
Coordinated System of Care	A region-based program for homeless families that provides rapid rehousing and ongoing case management for community reintegration and stabilization.
Coordinated Access	Streamlined assessment and triage to housing and resources for homeless families.
Regional Collaboration	Partnerships across public and private entities that ensure homeless families are fully supported and connected to permanent housing and services within their respective community.
Building Economic and Housing Stability	To facilitate connections to income, employment, and education that provide the financial resources to achieve long-term housing stability.
Targeted Interventions	Individualized housing and services assistance based on each homeless family's ability to obtain and maintain permanent housing stability.

What Makes HFSS Unique

What	How/Why
Combines federal/state/local mainstream funding streams into one system	Maximizes resources, streamlines efforts and reduces duplication
Primary goal of system is permanent housing for all homeless families	This is the solution and it is most cost effective
Families do not have to leave their own communities	Leverages existing community-based infrastructures for serving homeless families-maintains connections to support systems
Direct access to housing and services	Ensures that homeless families do not have to go to multiple places to obtain housing stability
Targeted interventions	Ensures that homeless families receive the intervention that best meets their needs.

How to Participate in the HFSS

- Attend monthly regional Collaborative Meetings
- Attend quarterly system-wide HFSS Collaborative Meetings
- Coordinate crisis housing resources with the FSC
- Coordinate permanent housing resources with the FSC
- Contact LAHSA or an FSC for additional ways to participate

FSC Providers

Starting July 1, 2014

SPA 1		SPA 2			
 		 			
SPA 3		SPA 4		SPA 5	
 	 	  			
SPA 6					
		 			
SPA 7			SPA 8		
			 		

FSC Services

- *Crisis Response*
 - *Standardized Screening & Triage*
 - *Direct Access to Crisis Housing*
- Standardized Assessment & Housing Interventions
 - Targeted Housing Interventions
 - Rapid Re-Housing
 - Service Enriched Housing
 - Other Permanent Housing Opportunities
 - *Financial assistance plan coordinated among multiple funding streams*
- Coordinated Community-Based Supportive Services and Housing Plan
- DPSS CalWORKs Resources
 - Homeless Assistance Programs
 - *Mental Health Services*
 - *Substance Abuse Services*
 - *Temporary Subsidized Employment*

Note: Items in *italics* are the result of the system redesign and take effect July 1, 2014.



CalWORKs Resources

- Outstationed DPSS Homeless Case Managers
 - Screen families for CalWORKs benefits
 - Assists families access DPSS programs
 - Assists families resolve sanctions or other issues
- CalWORKs Housing Programs/Services
 - Homeless Case Management Program
 - CalWORKs Homeless Assistance
 - 4-Month Rental Assistance Program
 - Emergency Assistance to Prevent Eviction Program
 - Moving Assistance Program
 - Housing Relocation Program

FSC Flow Chart

Scheduled Assessment

- All referrals and appointments are set by 211 or other shelter providers directly with the FSC
- Coordinated assessment to determine best intervention: diversion, rapid rehousing, service enriched housing
- After-hours crisis housing is available through 211 after-hours (until 10PM)

Housing Search Inspection Placement

- Crisis housing placement (as needed)
- Housing plan that follows the client through entire housing process
- Relationship building with landlords for placement opportunities & mediation as needed
- Short and medium term rental subsidies and move-in assistance

Housing Stability

- Making community connections prior to exit (e.g. shopping centers, social networks, schools, library, parks)
- Linkages to employment opportunities
- Referrals to ongoing mental health/substance abuse/medical
- Linkages to local food pantries
- Benefits and Education advocacy
- Tenant rights & landlord mediation

FSC Outcomes

1,769 Homeless Families Assisted

Over 700 Families permanently housed or connected to First 5 rental

257 Families were connected to temporary housing

570 Families in temporary housing working towards a permanent housing placement



SPA 6 FSC: WEINGART CENTER ASSOCIATION

Coordination of Services



Community Partnerships



Successes

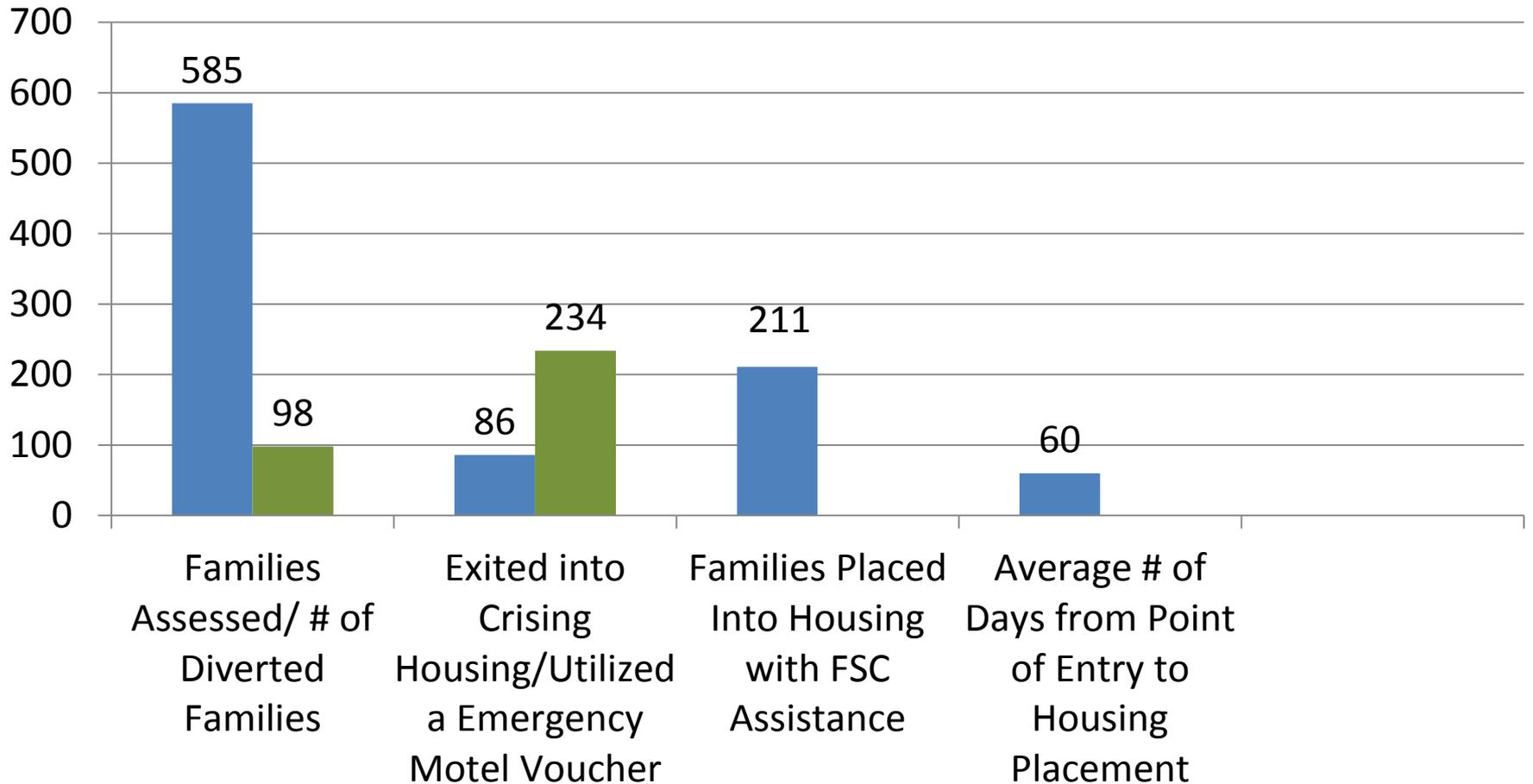
- Increase Partnerships with Community Landlords and Property Owners
- Shared Housing Project
- Developed Community Collaborative Service Model
- Continuum Wide Collaboration
- Housing Placement Strategy

Challenges

- Emergency Housing Stock for Large Families and Single Father Households
- Post Housing support for high barrier families
- Access to Permanent Supportive Housing Units
- Lack of Affordable Housing Units



SPA 6 Outcomes



QUESTIONS