Curating Critically Timed Choice Sets to Prevent Homelessness

Housing stability for people at risk of homelessness needs to be a priority as the benefit of preventing homelessness is a strong community issue. Communities with high rates of evictions and homelessness often experience additional negative social and economic outcomes such as school displacement for children, loss of income, etc. Equitable housing is about preservation for people on the housing margins.

This workshop will challenge attendee’s perception about risk of homelessness, and that well formulated programs that work to enhance housing stability are successful. People are generally risk-averse and act to prevent the loss of something that is highly valued, such as a home. It follows that theoretically grounded and well-run eviction and homeless prevention activities will successfully prevent people from homelessness.

The positive outcomes from HELP USA’s 16 years as a HomeBase homeless prevention provider clearly illustrate the impact and success of homeless prevention services. This presentation will describe HELP USA’s successful homeless prevention program and its innovative program, New Beginnings that seek to increase long-term housing stability for young heads of households. This program, grounded in critical time intervention has been successful in lowering the rate of housing instability, homelessness and depression, while increasing positive outcomes such as income and educational attainment, ensuing that homelessness is no longer a constant threat.
With this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Learn about HELP USA's evidenced-based homeless prevention programs that have successfully prevented thousands of families from becoming homeless.
- Learn about HELP's homeless prevention Critical Time Intervention program. A clinically designed program that works with young heads of households to promote long-term housing stability by working across many domains to include income growth, educational attainment and family planning.
- Gain knowledge to a systems perspective of homeless prevention, and how an increase and shifting of resources is necessary to stem the tide of homelessness.
Daniel Farrell, LCSW

Daniel Farrell, LCSW is a Senior Vice President of Assessment, Diversion and Research at HELP USA, a national homeless service provider. Daniel is responsible for multiple transitional housing, shelter and homeless prevention/rapid rehousing programs in multiple US cities including New York City, Philadelphia and Las Vegas serving over 10,000 homeless or at-risk single adults and families each year. He is also an Adjunct Professor at the Hunter College School of Social Work, and a graduate from the New York Institute for Psychoanalytic Self Psychology. He has published multiple papers on homelessness.

Patrick Fowler, PhD

Patrick Fowler, PhD researches ways to prevent homelessness and its deleterious effects on child, family, and community well-being. Fowler integrates community and data sciences to investigate the complex causes that underlie racial and health disparities associated with homelessness. Recent work tests the potential for algorithmic decision-making to identify and address inequities in homeless and child welfare services delivery. By engaging with communities, Dr. Fowler’s research aims to improve upstream policies and programs that promote housing stability efficiently and fairly. His federally funded research has been supported by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the National Science Foundation, U.S. Administration for Children and Families, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Fowler teaches courses in public health, social work, and computational and data sciences.
Tina L. Goodrich

Tina L. Goodrich has 25 years of experience in the fields of affordable housing administration and homeless service delivery. Most of her initial experience in the area of government subsidized housing and services came during her nine-year tenure at MBD Community Development Corporation in the Bronx. She made the transition to operation of NYC Department of Homeless Services (DHS) shelters in 2006 with VIP Community Services. She has served in various capacities in DHS shelters including eight years with the HELP USA Women’s Center (HWC) in Brooklyn serving as the Director of Housing and Director of Social Services.

Currently, Tina serves as the Executive Director of Homeless Prevention and Aftercare Special Project of three HELP USA Programs simultaneously including New Beginnings Critical Time Intervention, Veterans Aftercare Critical Time Intervention, and NYC HPD Our Space for formerly homeless households. She oversees a staff of eight and focuses on crafting positive outcomes for the most vulnerable households in the City. Tina has a BA from CUNY Brooklyn College and Master of Arts in Urban Affairs from CUNY Queens College. She also serves as Board Vice Chairperson at The Institute of Family Health, a non-profit community health organization.