

New Bedford Homeless Service Providers Network (HSPN)

www.nbhspn.com/

Community Priorities.2017

These priorities are not in a ranked order.

1 Maintain current inventory of permanent housing for those experiencing homelessness.

Continue to work toward finding funding outside of HUD for existing CoC-funded permanent supportive housing programs that are able to document that they meet a community need, meet/exceed HUD and program outcomes and are in alignment with "Opening Doors", the federal strategic plan to end homelessness.

Prioritize the use of a housing first model.

Adapt and utilize housing first strategies in all CoC programs to ensure long term success for housing those with the most challenging needs and barriers.

3 Explore opportunities for reallocation.

Assess potential opportunities for reallocating funds from under-performing programs to those programs with greater outcomes and new initiatives to provide additional permanent supportive housing.

House the chronically homeless.

Increase the inventory of permanent supportive housing for those experiencing chronic homelessness.

5 • Rapidly re-house.

Utilize rapid re-housing funds and strategies to facilitate housing relocation and stabilization services, short term rental assistance and case management services to help individuals or families quickly move out of homelessness into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing.

6. Enhance HMIS capabilities.

Review efficiencies, data quality and efficacy of the existing HMIS system and determine methodologies needed to enhance and improve the HMIS system at a program level and at a system-wide level ensuring greater transparency, ease of access and usability of data.

7. House subpopulations experiencing homelessness.

Increase the inventory of permanent, affordable housing that accommodates the unique needs of subpopulations experiencing homelessness including:

- Veterans
- Families
- Unaccompanied youth
- Victims of domestic violence/sexual predation/stalking
- Disabled populations

- Those with chronic mental health issues
- Those with substance abuse issues
- Those living with HIV/AIDS
- Elders

House and support the needs of all experiencing homelessness.

Increase the inventory of permanent supportive housing with access to supportive services for individuals and families that include:

- Case Management/Life Skills Training
- Job Training and Placement /
- Educational and Vocational Programs (including GED)
- Substance Abuse Treatment
- Transportation Assistance
- Mental Health Care

- Child Care
- Health Care (Medical and Dental Care)
- Services targeted to special needs populations
- Legal Assistance
- Housing/Foreclosure Counseling



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Community Priorities.2017 Continued

9. Continue coordinated entry.

Maintain and evaluate the efficacy of the continuum-wide coordinated intake and assessment model for diversion and referrals into housing and programs within the CoC; ensure connectivity of CES with HMIS.

10. Increase supportive services for homeless populations.

- Increase capacity and access to comprehensive, client-centered case management services from entry into the homeless system through follow up services in un-supported permanent housing.
- Work with local employment programs and enhance employment/job placement services for persons with little or no employment history (including child care and transportation).
- Outreach and engage with services for the chronically homeless and frequent users of the homeless system.
- Work to secure a diversified stream of mainstream resources to fund needed supportive services.

77. Coordinate outreach efforts.

Continue coordination of comprehensive outreach efforts throughout the Continuum to ensure supportive services and housing resources are provided to unsheltered individuals and families as a means of ensuring stabilization.