



# Bridges Provider Meeting

January 31, 2022



# Our Mission: The Core Purpose

Housing is the foundation for success, so we collaborate with individuals, communities and partners to create, preserve and finance housing that is affordable.

# Agenda

## Topic

- Provider Recognition
- Bridges Work Plan 2022 – 2023
  - Guiding Principles; Goals; Partners; Strategic Objectives
- Metrics
- Housing Stabilization Services
- Additional Funding
- Release of Information
- Questions

# Provider Recognition

- All Bridges providers
- Gary Lloyd – Mental Health Resources, Inc.
- Louise Reis – St. Cloud HRA
- Debbie Wold – Bemidji HRA

# Bridges Work Plan 2022 – 2023

## Mission

- Improve the lives of homeless people with mental illness in transition from institutions by creating interagency collaboration that supports housing stability

## Vision

- Increase the number of people with mental illness exiting segregated settings/institutions into housing stability

# Guiding Principles

1. Support people with disabilities who are exiting institutions
2. Equity and inclusion – reach underserved populations
3. Interagency collaboration – foster relationships to support transitions to housing stability
4. Increase accountability and provide measurable results
5. Create housing options for people with mental illness in the community

# Partners: Interagency Collaboration

- Corrections: jails and prison parole officers
- Regional treatment centers
- Community behavioral health centers
- Adult foster care
- Residential treatment centers
- Segregated settings; tribal definitions; mental health and substance use disorder treatment programs; other
- Housing stability service providers; other behavioral health supports
- Property management companies; property owners

1. Decrease the time it takes to transition from institutions into housing
2. Increase housing access for underserved populations
3. Improve housing stability and quality of life for people with mental illness



# Strategic Objectives

1. Improve housing transitions from institutions and segregated settings by creating a waiting list that promotes real-time exits from institutions into housing
2. Establish regular communication with partners at AMHI meetings, including corrections professionals and housing stability service providers
3. Have providers identify all referral sources in the region; incorporate them into the referral process

# Strategic Objectives (continued)

4. Identify new housing options for people with barriers; master leasing; room rental; new property owner/management company relationships
5. Document service referral and service attainment (housing stabilization services and community behavioral health services [e.g., ARMHS, Case Management, ACT])
6. Track progress with meaningful metrics that show progress in aligning with the guiding principles of the program

# Strategic Objectives (continued)

The Bridges program manager will arrange a meeting with each Bridges provider to lay out the objectives for the provider to better align their work with Bridges Program goals and guiding principles.

## 1. Decrease transition time from institution into housing

- Increase number of housing options (room rental; master leasing)
- Increase number of referrals from institutions that are placed into housing

# Metrics (continued)

## 2. Increase housing access for underserved populations

- Providers will incorporate corrections into the referral process by identifying a referral source and process
- Providers will identify landlords that will work with people who are Black, Indigenous, people of color
- Track accurate demographic information about participants (reduce use of unknown responses)
- Increase enrollment for people who are Black, Indigenous, people of color

# Metrics (continued)

## 3. Improve quality of life and housing stability for people with mental illness

- Increase time in housing stability over time, measured by number of months (three – six – twelve months)
- Increase access to services to help with housing barrier reduction
- Increase services to the region
- Service attainment and retention
- Quality-of-life survey instrument

# Metrics (continued)

The Bridges program manager will meet with each Bridges provider to identify ways to measure their organization's success at aligning Bridges goals and guiding principles.

# Housing Stabilization Services

- Housing services
  - Housing transition
  - Housing sustaining
  - Enrolled housing stabilization services provider
- Housing consultation services
  - Assessment
  - Housing focused, person-centered plan
  - Targeted case manager or enrolled housing consultation provider
- Work with cooperative agreement partners to coordinate and help ensure Bridges recipients have access to services



# Housing Stabilization Services Resources

- Overview of Housing Stabilization Services video on YouTube
  - <https://youtu.be/lkT40kBRNgs>
- DHS Housing Stabilization Services [website](#)
  - Follow the “How to Find an Enrolled Provider” link for a searchable list of 363 providers or go to [MinnesotaHelp.info](https://www.mnhelp.info)
- [Housing Benefits 101](#) website for more housing related information
- Questions for providers and more resources from DHS

# Additional Funding

- Additional Bridges Program funding will be made available during the contract term
- Funding will be prioritized for providers that demonstrate strong referral processes for people with justice involvement
- Housing with Supports for Adults with Serious Mental Illness Program Request for Proposals published January 24, 2022
- More information at [DHS Grants and RFPs](#) website

# Release of Information

- Release of Information to provide client information to Minnesota Housing
- Release of Information to share information with providers
- Data collection and sharing has two components
  - [Informed Consent](#) or Release of Information form
  - [Tennessen Warning Notice](#) or privacy notice
- More information at Minnesota Department of Administration webpage – [Data Practices Office](#)

# Questions

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