



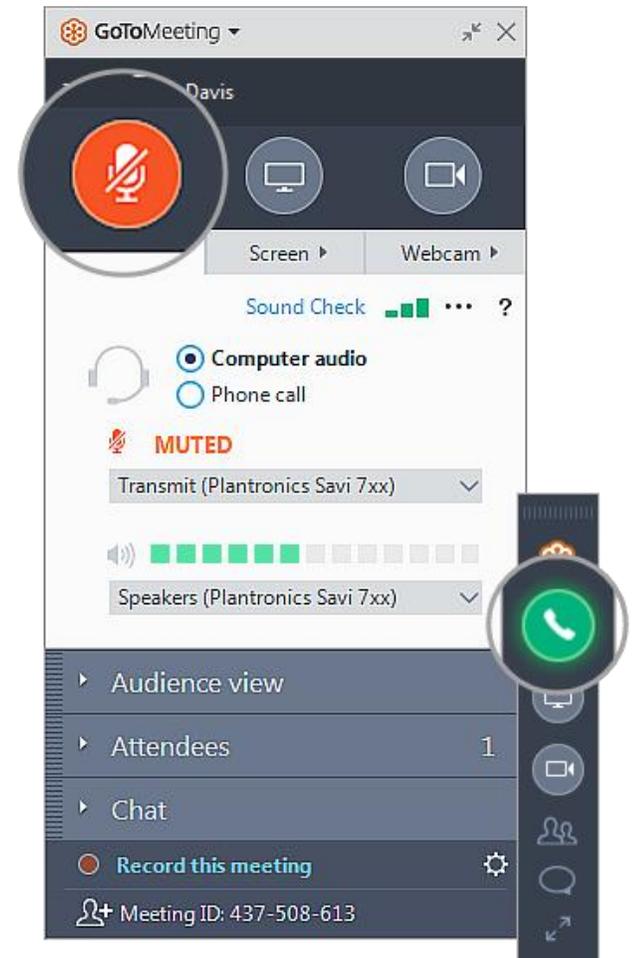
Heading Home Minnesota
FUNDERS COLLABORATIVE

Homework Starts with Home Information Session: Leveraging Mainstream Systems

May 10, 2018

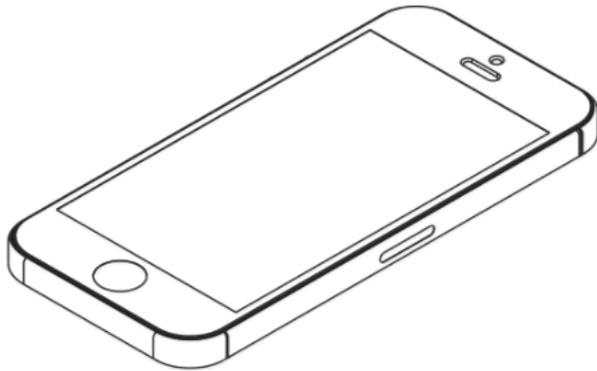
Meeting logistics

- This session is being recorded and may be posted publicly.
- We will leave time at the end for questions.
- Don't forget to sign out and get your guest parking validation before you leave.
- If joining remotely...
 - Please mute your line unless you are speaking. Webinar audio controls are **orange** when muted.
 - Please do not put your line on hold as this may trigger hold music.
 - We will not be monitoring the chat function.



To pose questions throughout this session...

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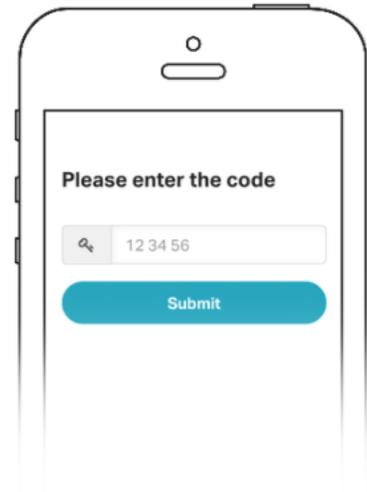
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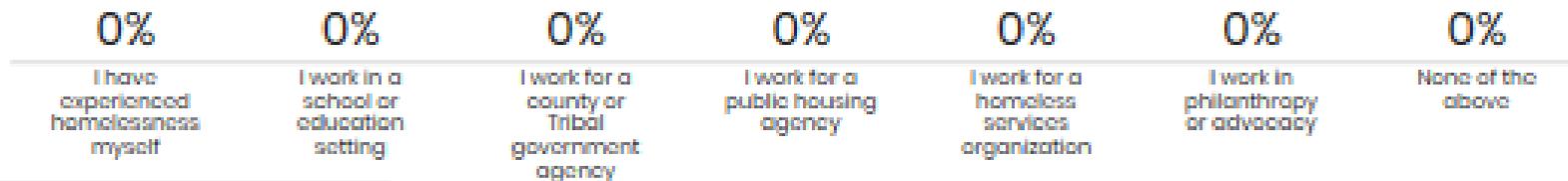


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Which of the following best describes you?



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Today's presenters

- **Eric Grumdahl**, Minnesota Department of Education and Minnesota Office to Prevent and End Homelessness
- **Amy Stetzel**, Minnesota Office to Prevent and End Homelessness
- **Alison Niemi**, Minnesota Department of Human Services and Minnesota Office to Prevent and End Homelessness
- **Pete Bernardy**, Results Management Team, Minnesota Management and Budget

What do we mean by “mainstream systems”?

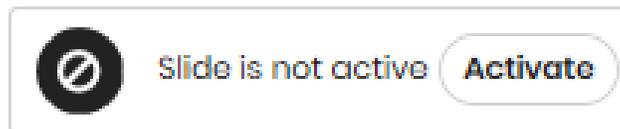
Mainstream systems, programs, or services are those that:

- Typically serve a wide group of people (e.g., everyone below an income threshold)
- Don't exist to *specifically* serve people experiencing homelessness
- Can create housing stability when people experiencing homelessness can access and use their resources

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Examples of mainstream programs

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Minnesota Interagency Council on Homelessness

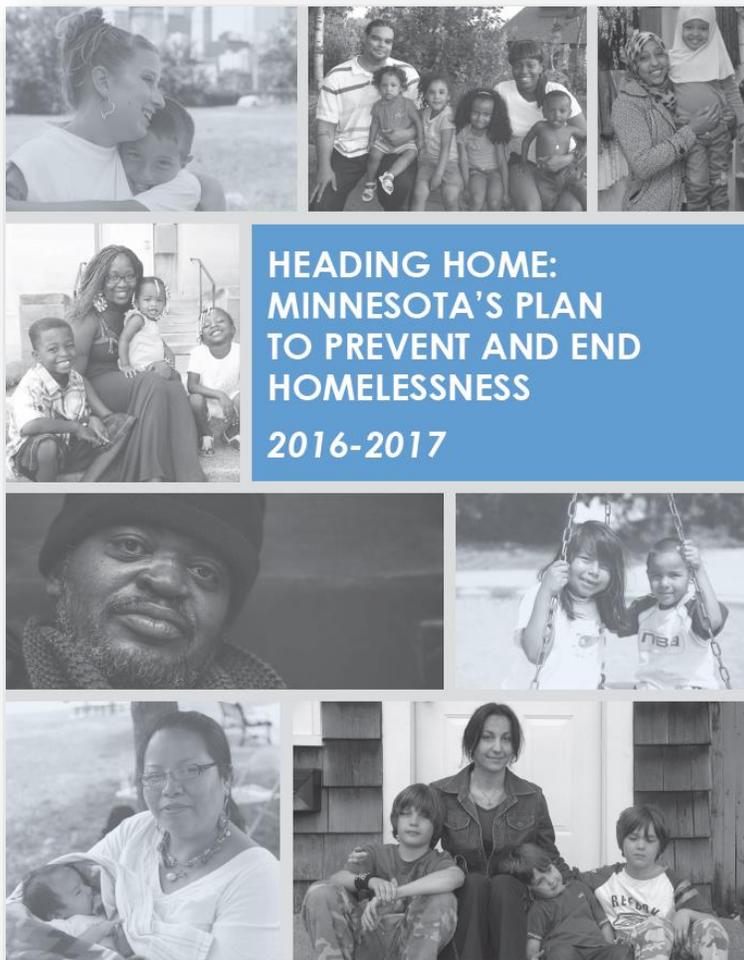
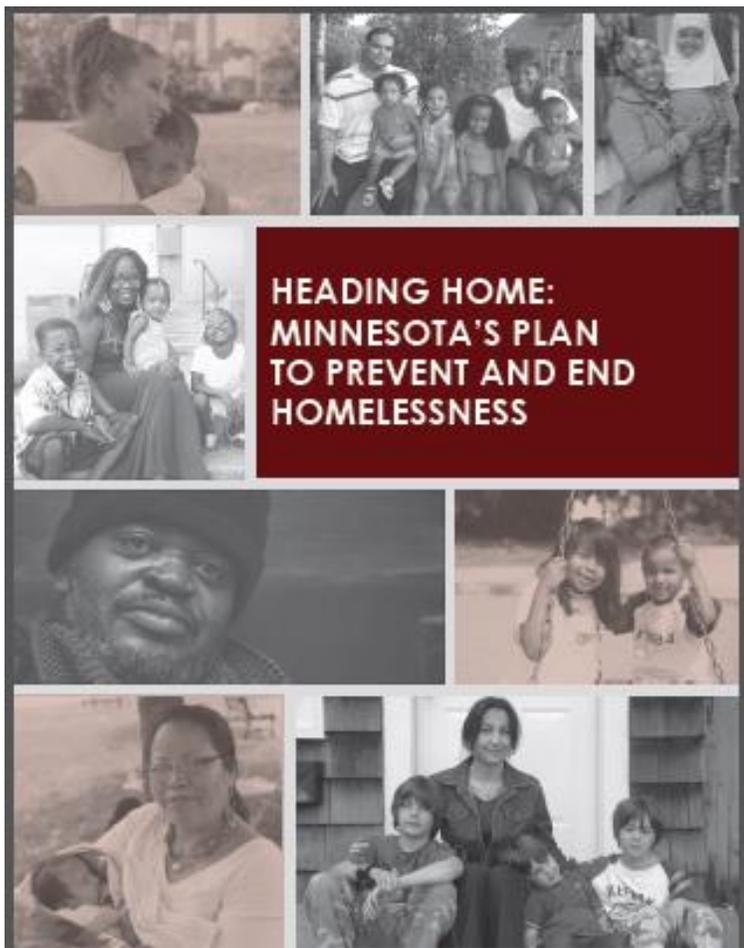
- Corrections
- Human Rights
- Human Services
- Metropolitan Council
- Public Safety
- Transportation
- Minnesota Housing and Finance
- Veterans Affairs
- Education
- Employment and Economic Development
- Governor's Office
- Health
- Higher Education

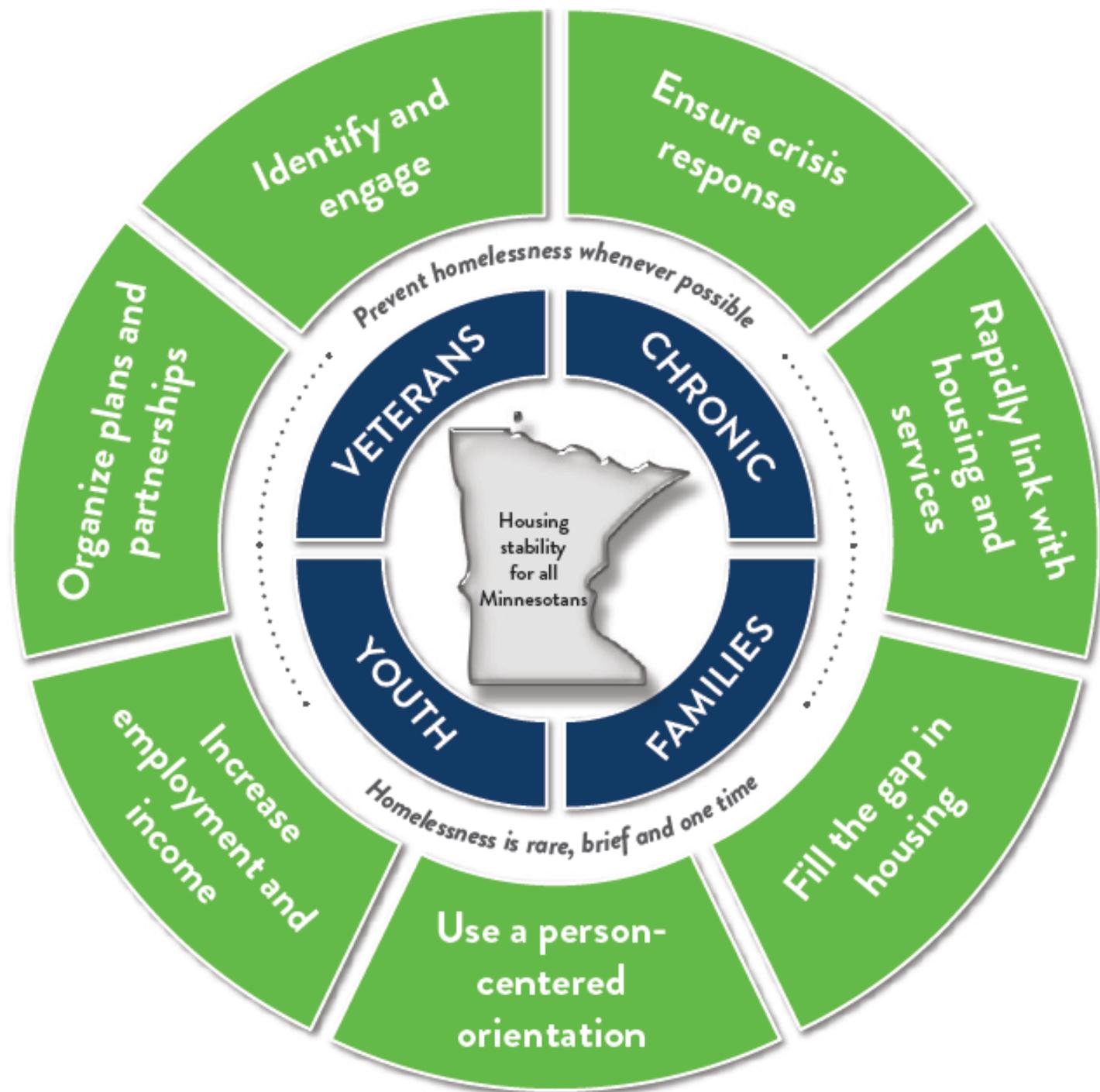
Our Vision: Housing Stability for All Minnesotans

Stable housing results in better educational outcomes for our children, a stronger workforce now and in the future, increased public safety, better health, reduced health care costs, and reduced disparities among communities.

- Governor Dayton

A New Plan – A New Partnership





Prevent homelessness whenever possible, and otherwise making it rare, brief, and non-recurring



Foundational Service Practices

A set of guiding principles designed to improve access to resources that can help prevent or end homelessness for families and individuals.



Foundational Service Practices: Why were they developed?

- People experiencing homelessness are often **unable to access** and use mainstream programs to the same extent as people who are more stably housed.
- While all low-income populations face barriers to applying for, retaining, and using the services provided by mainstream programs, these **barriers are compounded** by the inherent conditions of homelessness, such as transience, instability, and a lack of basic resources.
- The **underlying structure and operations** of mainstream programs are often not conducive to ensuring that the special needs of homeless people are met.

Foundational Service Practices: How were they developed?

- Informed by interviews with key partners from around the state
- Incorporated national research, current federal and state guidelines, and program subject matter expertise



***“What’s hard
for people who
are housed is
impossible for
people who are
homeless.”***

Foundation Service Practice #1

**Know the housing status
of the people you are
serving.**

- Ask the question
- Collect and store data
- Develop response protocol



Foundation Service Practice #2

Actively reach out to people experiencing homelessness.

- Simple, easy and clear instructions
- Connect with homeless services staff
- Go to where people already are



Foundation Service Practice #3

- At application/re-application/to receive services or benefits/to ask questions
- Drop-in hours
- Services are not cut off or dropped simply due to missed appointments

Limit requirements for in-person appointments at a particular location or office.



Foundation Service Practice #4

- Data sharing between agencies
- Hands-on application assistance
- Extra response time or other lenience if needed
- Funds to help with getting documents
- Free storage (DB101/HB101)

Assist with the process of gathering required verifications or documentation.





My Vault

If you are looking for a new place to live, the Vault is a safe place to build a plan. Your HB101 Plan can help you decide on your needs and wants, review your money and budget, and present yourself in a positive way. *Your HB101 Plan won't find you a place, but it will help you figure out what to look for and how to pay for it.*

[Learn how your Vault can help you make a housing plan.](#)



[Sign in](#) or [register](#) to work with your Vault.

[Get Help Now](#)

[Do you have a disability?](#)

[Are you 60 or older?](#)

[Are you a veteran?](#)

[Are you homeless?](#)

[Other?](#)

Vault Tips

[Do one activity at a time and come back later.](#)

[Sign In](#) | [Register](#)

Foundation Service Practice #5

- Do not require a personal mailing address or phone number
- Allow recipients a choice in how they want to receive information
- Allow for a 3rd-party contact person or authorized representative

Allow for multiple methods to communicate about benefits and services.



Foundational Service Practices

1. Know the housing status of the people you are serving
2. Actively reach out to people experiencing homelessness
3. Limit requirements for in-person appointments at a particular location or office
4. Assist with the process of gathering required verifications or documentation
5. Allow for multiple methods to communicate about benefits and services

Results for Children and Youth initiative

- **Multi-agency results-based initiative within Minnesota state government**
- **Vision:** Ensure all Minnesota youth thrive and are prepared to contribute to the World's Best Workforce.
- **Context:** Minnesota ranks first in the nation for overall child well-being, but near the bottom for children of color and American Indian children.
- **Mission:** Eliminate barriers and create opportunity so that all children experience safe, stable, and nurturing environments and relationships – at home, at school, and in the community – and:
 - All children are ready for school
 - All children succeed from elementary school to high school:
 - Post-secondary education is affordable, accessible, and useful
 - These outcomes are universal, regardless of cultural, economic, and geographic backgrounds

New cohort of systems and programs applying FSPs to their work:

- DHS Child Welfare
- MDH Home Visiting
- DEED Youth Programs
- MDE Early Childhood Family Education
- OHE Emergency Grant
- OHE Get Ready!
- MHFA Bridges

- Leveraging mainstream systems is a critical Federal strategy to prevent and end homelessness, including:
 - Using mainstream systems as direct support for people facing homelessness
 - Using mainstream systems to bolster or finance homelessness programs
- USICH's *Enlisting Mainstream Resources and Programs to End Homelessness* references specific Federal guidance across numerous programs.
- In many cases, Federal guidance indicates what is possible, but implementation is at local discretion.
- <https://tinyurl.com/USICH-Mainstream-Systems>



Examples: PHAs and economic assistance

Public Housing Agencies

- CSH's PHA Toolkit for Public Housing Agencies and their partners who want to end homelessness
<http://www.csh.org/phatoolkit>
- HUD's guide on collaboration between Continuums of Care and PHAs to end homelessness
<https://www.hudexchange.info/news/resources-for-coc-and-pha-collaboration-to-end-homelessness/>
- Minnesota Housing and MN-NAHRO's [Achieving Housing Stability Together](#) guide for potential roles for Minnesota's PHAs in ending homelessness

TANF / MFIP programs

- HHS's Information Memorandum on the role that TANF can play in ending homelessness
<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/resource/tanf-acf-im-2013-01>

Examples: Education and workforce systems

Education

- HHS's guide on Expanding Early Care and Education for Homeless Children
<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ece/interagency-projects/ece-services-for-homeless-children>
- HUD and ED's guide on Housing and Education Cross-Systems Collaboration
<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/resources-for-homeless-youth/housing-and-education-cross-systems-collaboration/>

Workforce systems

- DOL and USICH's Partnerships for Opening Doors report
https://www.usich.gov/resources/uploads/asset_library/Partnerships_for_Opening_Doors.pdf

Creating preferences, expedited access, and monitoring performance

- MDE's Early Learning Scholarship Program

Changing policies to improve participation for people in crisis

- DHS's Child Care Assistance Program

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Questions?



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Thank you!

For more information about Homework Starts with Home:

MDE's Homework Starts with Home page: <http://education.mn.gov/MDE/fam/home/>

Minnesota Housing's Multifamily Grants page: <http://tinyurl.com/MH-HSWH-2018>

Register for upcoming info sessions: <http://tinyurl.com/HSWH-info-sessions-2018>

Questions? Contact Diane Elias at diane.elias@state.mn.us or 651.284.3176