The Hard Work to Bring Housing and Child Welfare Systems Together

HFPC

Tuesday April 10th, 11:00 – 11:50 am



Join **CSH** in our campaign to keep families safely and stably housed together under **One Roof**.





Visit 1rooffamilies.org





Endorse the campaign



Join our Network



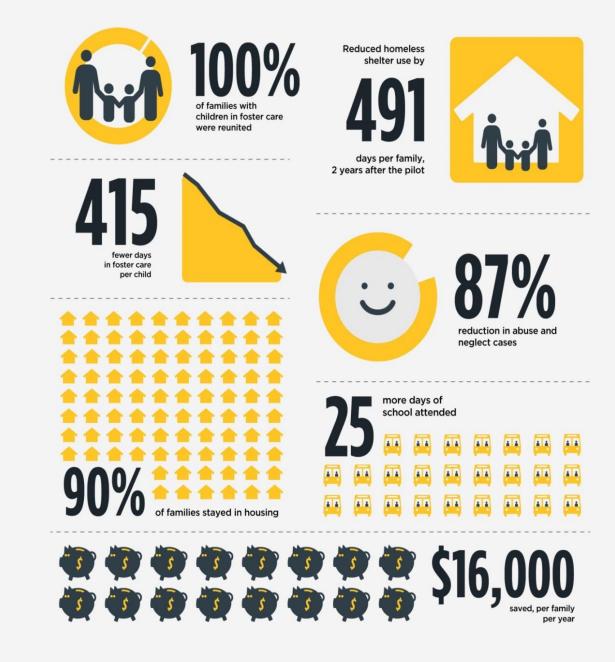
Follow us @1rooffamilies

KFT Results

Housed and provided supports to 29 families in New York City.

Positive outcomes for families and children.

Offered a brighter future for parents and kids.



National Family Supportive Housing Demonstration









Family Context Indicates Need for Collaboration

High rates of homelessness and housing instability:

- 41% literally homeless
- 35% unstably housed
- 45% have history of frequent moves
- 42% have history of past literal homelessness

Across sites, primary caregivers have high needs:

- High rates of mental health issues (58%)
- High rates of substance use (48%)
- High rates of criminal justice involvement (49%)
- High rates of domestic violence (32%)
- High rates of children with high needs (27%)

High Rates of Recurring CW Involvement

- 73% had prior reports of abuse or neglect.
- 42% had a history of child welfare services.
- 54% of the primary caregivers had a history of abuse or neglect.
- 25% of primary caregivers had experienced placement in foster care as a child.







HEART

(Housing, Empowerment, Achievement, Recovery, Triumph)

Alliance for Sustainable Families



HEART Approach

- Highest Need Families
- Affordable Housing Access
- Intensive Supportive Service Infrastructure
- Housing Coordination
- Service Coordination

HEART Partners

PARTNER	ROLE
KID, Inc. (Kids in Distress)	Lead Community Youth & Family Services Provider: Project Lead Agency; Clinical Case Management
ChildNet	Lead Child Welfare Agency: Referral & Triage Housing Coordinator
Broward Sheriff's Office	Lead Child Protection Agency: Referral & Triage
5 Public Housing Authorities	Housing Choice Voucher Provider & Liaison (50 Vouchers)
HOPE South Florida	Emergency & Transitional Housing
Urban League of Broward County	Economic Self-Sufficiency Provider
Legal Aid of Broward County	Legal Counsel & Guidance
Broward Health	Health Access, Education & Screening
Broward Addiction Recovery Center	Substance Abuse & Behavioral Health Support
Women in Distress	Domestic Violence Prevention
Broward County Homeless Initiative	CoC Lead Agency; CoC Access
Barry University	Local Evaluation
Group Victory, LLC	Planning, Implementation & Sustainability Support

HEART Primary Services Team

PARTNER	ROLE	
KID, Inc.	Project Director 5 Clinical Case Managers (10:1 Ratio)	
ChildNet	Housing Coordinator	
Urban League of Broward County	2 Family Life Coaches	
Legal Aid of Broward County	1 Family Attorney	

HEART Families

N = 54 Families / 60 Adults 162 Children

- Prevention Families (N = 28)(52%)
- Reunification Families (N = 26)

(48%)

- Extremely Low Income: 30% of area median income (100%)
- Child Welfare Involvement (100%)
- At-Risk & Multiple High Needs (100%)
- Homelessness/Inadequate Housing/Housing Instability (100%)

Reunification Outcomes



Reunification				
# Children Reunified	# Families Reunified	Avg. Months to Reunify		
69	26	13.9		

Pending Reunification				
# of Children Pending Permanency	Children removed following HEART	Children who experienced Secondary Removals		
8 2 families	12 6 families	6 2 families		

Family Well-being Outcomes

Child Developmental Outcomes

Preliminary evidence shows HEART intervention positively impacts children's mental health with lower rule breaking and other externalizing behaviors for youth in treatment vs. control groups.

Family Outcomes

Significant reduction in the number of group home placements, and institutional placements for the treatment group as compared to the control group.

92.5% housing choice voucher retention creates a sense of security and stability.





ACYF FEDERAL GRANT (2012-2017): PARTNERSHIPS TO DEMONSTRATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR FAMILIES IN THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

Partners: State of Connecticut Department of Children and Families, The Connection, UCONN & Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago

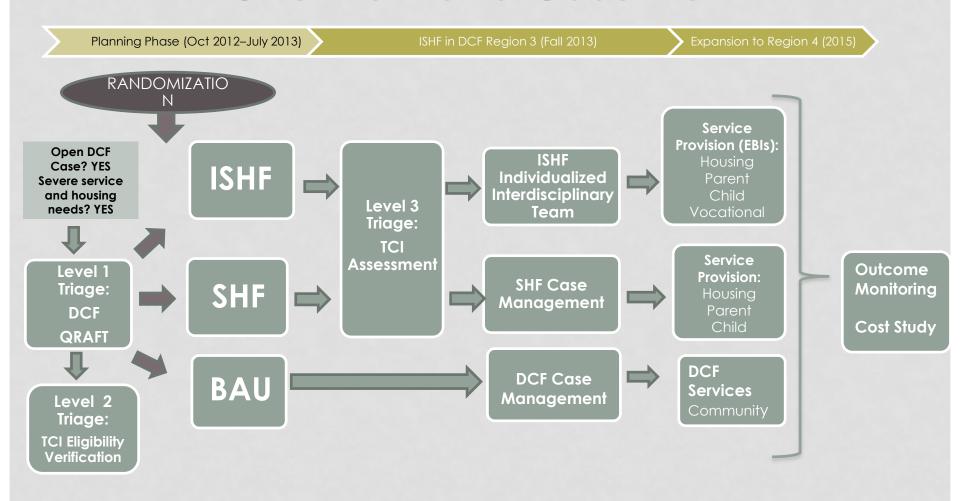
Target Population:

- Families involved in the Department of Children & Families
- Recent substantiation of abuse/neglect (preservation or reunification)
- Homeless/at risk of homelessness
- · Multiple, high-risk parent and child service needs

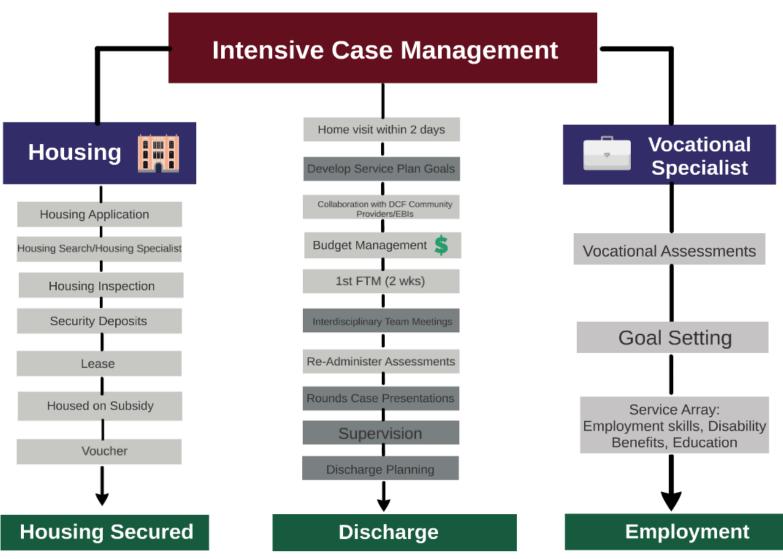
Referrals meeting criteria were randomized into one of three experimental groups:

- Intensive Supportive Housing for Families (ISHF): demonstration model
- Supportive Housing for Families (SHF): existing model
- Business as Usual: DCF Waitlist

CT Housing and Child Welfare Project – Overview and Case Flow



ISHF Service Model: Core Components



INTERIM FINDINGS: DECEMBER 31, 2017

Outcome Measure	ISHF	Project SHF
Families Successfully Housed	47 (94%) N=50	45 (90%) N= 50
Received Job Training	38 (76%)	10 (20%)
Completed Resume	35 (70%)	17 (34%)
Obtained New Employment	29 (58%)	22 (44%)
Enrolled in School/College	11 (22%)	5 (10%)
Average Length of Stay	19 months N=48	13.6 months N=46
Families with Children Preserved Home	18 (90%) N=20	23 (88%) N=26
Families with Children Reunified Home	14 (50%) N=28	4 (20%) N=20
Families with Children Reunified/Preserved at Discharge	32 (67%) N= 48	27 (59%) N= 46

QUESTIONS?

Panel & Discussion



Contact Info

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- Debra L. Struzinski, The Connection Inc., dlstruzinski@theconnectioninc.org
- Betsy Cronin, The Connection Inc., bcronin@theconnectioninc.org





THANK YOU!



stay connected











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