Precarious Housing and Homelessness in Older Adults: Resources and Collaboration

Virtual Course

PARTICIPANT MANUAL





The Academy for Professional Excellence is a project of the San Diego State University School of Social Work







This training was developed by the Academy for Professional Excellence, with funding from the California Department of Social Services, Adult Programs Division.



Curriculum Developer, 2022
Alice Joy Kirk, LCSW

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INTRODUCTION

THE ACADEMY FOR PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

We are pleased to welcome you to **Precarious Housing and Homelessness in Older Adults: Resources and Collaboration for APS Participant Manual**, developed by Adult Protective Services Workforce Innovations (APSWI), a program of the Academy for Professional Excellence under a grant from the California Department of Social Services, Adult Programs Division.

The Academy for Professional Excellence, a project of San Diego State University School of Social Work, was established in 1996 to provide exceptional workforce development and organizational support to the health and human services community by providing training, technical assistance, organizational development, research, and evaluation. Serving over 20,000 people annually, the Academy continues to grow with new programs and a diversity of training focused on serving the health and human services community in Southern California and beyond.

The Academy is a project of San Diego State University School of Social Work (founded in 1963), which offers both a bachelor's and master's degree in Social Work. The School of Social Work at San Diego State University was founded in 1963 and has been continuously accredited by the Council of Social Work Education since 1966.

APSWI is a program of the Academy for Professional Excellence. APSWI is designed to provide competency-based, multidisciplinary training to Adult Protective Services professionals and their partners. APSWI's overarching goal is the professionalization of Adult Protective Services professionals to ensure that abused and vulnerable older adults and adults with disabilities receive high quality, effective interventions and services.

In partnership with state and national organizations, APSWI is developing a national APS Supervisor Core Competency Training Curriculum. This curriculum is developed, reviewed and approved by experts in the elder and dependent adult abuse fields.

APSWI's partners include:

- National Adult Protective Services Association (NAPSA) Education Committee
- California Department of Social Services (CDSS), Adult Programs Division
- County Welfare Directors Association of California (CWDA), Protective Services Operations Committee (PSOC)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Precarious Housing and Homelessness in Older Adults: Resources and Collaboration For APS

This is the *third* workshop in the series: "Effectively Working APS Cases for Persons Experiencing Homelessness". The series is designed to provide APS professionals with knowledge, practical tools, opportunities to build empathy and to gain a better understanding of what many individuals who are homeless, or precariously housed might work through in order to work more effectively with this population.

In this third and final workshop, APS professionals will gain a basic understanding of how the complex systems of affordable housing and help for people experiencing homelessness have evolved. This workshop was designed to help participants identify and understand strategies that support their client's ability to navigate through those systems. This includes resources for other basic life needs which can help the money used for housing to stretch further.

After completing this workshop, participants will have insight to how the nation has shaped the response to homelessness on a state and federal level, what resources currently exist and how they can use those resources to help the people they work with. Participants will work individually and in breakout groups to locate and research useable resources and collaborative opportunities for their location and people they specifically work with. This includes an in-depth look at how California is shaping its response to homelessness. Participants will also be given resources to continue their learning process as programs and funding evolve.

Virtual Training

- The following virtual instructional strategies are used throughout the course: lectures, interactive activities/exercises, chat box discussions, large group discussions, breakout rooms, and poll options. PowerPoint slides are used to stimulate discussion and provide visuals on navigating websites.
- Participants will need access to a computer with video conferencing capability and be able to connect to the virtual platform being used to deliver this training. A headset or earbuds with microphone and a video camera are highly encouraged. Participant Manual is a fillable PDF if using Adobe Acrobat. Participants are encouraged to either print a hard copy or ensure access to Adobe Acrobat to allow for highlighting and note taking.

Course Requirements

- There are no course requirements but it is recommended that participants have some experience interviewing clients. It is highly encouraged to have attended Workshops #1 and #2 prior to attending.
- It is recommended that participants print out Handout #1-Federal Programs, Handout #4-Additional Resources (Non-Housing) and Handout #5-Links to Resources & Continued Education prior to attending training.

Continued

Target Audience

This training is intended for new and experienced line staff, and for supervising staff.

Learning Objectives

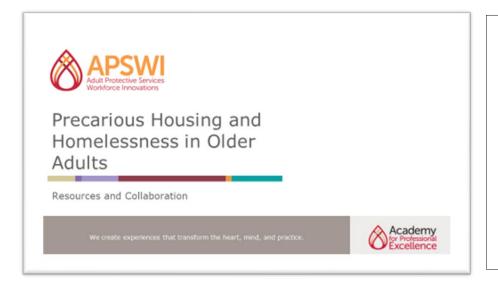
Upon completion of this training participants will be able to:

- Summarize the complex system of affordable housing.
- Identify at least 3 resources available to use within one's APS practice.
- Compare resources for the general homeless population to subpopulations within the community like people involved in the justice system and people living with disabilities.
- Plan for ways to stay connected with a changing system of services.

COURSE OUTLINE

CONTENT	MATERIALS	TIME
WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, &		10 minutes
COURSE OVERVIEW		
Activity #1- Your Experience in		
<u>Workshop Series</u>		
(Individual Poll)		
Course Goal and Learning Objectives		
FEDERAL PROGRAMS ADDRESSING		25 minutes
HOMELESSNESS		
Activity #2- Memory Jog		
(Individual/large group)		
Federal Programs and Funding Sources		
Tying it Together	Handout #1-	
	Federal Resources	
CALIFORNIA RESOURCES	Diagram	60 minutes
CALIFORNIA RESOURCES		ou minutes
Home Safe, Project Roomkey and		
Project Homekey		
Continuum of Care in CA		
Types of Shelters		
Housing Authority		
Activity #3- Public Housing Authority		
Scavenger Hunt		
(Breakout Groups)		
Low Income Housing Tax Credits		15 20 minutes
MEETING THE NEEDS OF SUB		15-20 minutes
POPULATIONS		
Veterans, Living with Mental Illness,		
Living with Disabilities, Previously incarcerated, registered sex offenders		
ADITIONAL BARRIERS NAVIGATING		15 minutes
THE SYSTEM		13 minutes
THE STATEM		
	Handout #2-	
	Navigating Barriers Tip Sheet	
SERVICE PLANNING AND		30 minutes
COLLABORATION		

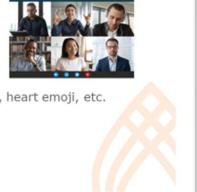
Precarious Housing and Homelessness in Old	er Adults	PARTICIPANT MANUAI
Activity #4- Case Study Application (Individual, Breakout Groups)	Handout #3- Case Vignettes & Handout #4- Additional Resources (Non- Housing)	
CHANGING LANDSCAPE		15 minutes
CA's Master Plan for Aging, AB 135		
Continued Education	Handout #5- Links to Resources & Continued Education	
WRAP-UP AND EVALUATIONS		10 minutes
Activity #5- My Takeaway (Individual)		
TOTAL TIME (NOT INCLUDING BREAKS)		3 HOURS





Housekeeping

- Video Camera
 - Option to hide "self view"
- Mute, unmute
- Chat box
- Reactions:
 - Thumbs up, clap, raise hand, heart emoji, etc.
- · If you must step away...
- · Potential technical glitches



Introductions

- Type in names, titles, and counties (or APS programs).
- Facilitator Introduction
- · Poll:
 - Which workshops have you attended:
 - a. Workshop #1: Homelessness in Older Adults: Examining the Layers.
 - b. Workshop #2: Responding to APS Cases Involving Adults Experiencing Homelessness.
 - c. Both Workshop #1 and #2
 - d. Did not attend either workshop
 - e. Cannot remember

Course Goals and Learning Objectives

3rd Workshop in "Effectively Working APS Cases for Persons Experiencing Homelessness" series.

- Workshop #1: Understanding risk/protective factors, examining layers of bias and applying principles of Trauma-Informed Care
- · Workshop #2: Looking at complexity of these cases, practical strategies in safety, outreach and assessment and develop personal self-care plan

After completion of this workshop, participants will be able to:

- Summarize the complex system of affordable housing.

 Identify at least three resources available to use within one's own APS practice.
- Compare resources for the general homeless population to sub populations within the community such as those involved in the justice system, or individuals living with
- Plan for ways to stay connected and continue learning about the quickly changing system of services for those who are houseless.

Quote



"It's up to brave hearts, sir, to be patient when things are going badly, as well as being happy when they're going well ...'

Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra

Knowledge Check

- 1. What is Housing First?
 - a. Temporary housing given with an agreement that individuals will complete listed requirements.
 - b. Emergency/Crisis housing.
 - Recovery oriented approach that centers on moving people into permanent housing and providing supports and services.
- What was the initial purpose of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)?
 - a. To provide housing for the Homeless.
 - b. To create decent homes and communities for Americans.
 - c. To develop a Nation without poverty.
- 3. Why Was the McKinney Vento Act created?
 - a. As a Federal response to the problem of homelessness.
 - b. To prevent children from growing up homeless.
 - c. To create a system of subsidized housing.
- 4. What is the most effective housing resource you are currently aware of and why?

US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

- Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) signed in as Cabinet Level Agency in 1965 (Lydon B. Johnson).
 - Always about housing but not always about Homelessness
 - Initial Focus was on Affordable Housing and Blight.
 - Has become the Federal Response to Homelessness.

How does it help?

 Provides an extensive amount of information and resources.



McKinney-Vento Act

- 1980's: Increasing Homelessness is visible.
- Federal Government does feel it is their responsibility.
- Multiple attempts and Bi-partisan support brings about the McKinney-Vento act.
- McKinney-Vento creates:
 - Interagency Council (USICH)
 - Coordination of programs
 - Funds to assist the Homeless



How Does it Help? **Foundational Act**. Help in understanding how all programs link together.

Interagency Council On Homelessness (USICH)

- · Established by the McKinney-Vento Act.
- 19 Federal Agencies who broke down silos.
 - Issues policy making reports:
 - Opening Doors (2010)Home Together (2018)

 - · House America (2021)
 - Promotes coordination of among state, federal and private sectors.



How does it help?

 Email subscription provides constant flow of information.



- Tasked with moving the needle on homelessness.
- HUD created the Continuum of Care (COC) to organize funding awards.
- Must have a "Coordinated Entry System."
- Appoints "Lead Agencies"

How Does it Help?

 Links to determine who the Lead Agency is and their contact

Grantee Contact Information - HUD Exchange



Public Housing Programs

- Two types:
 - Tenant Based Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8)
 - · Can be transferred to other counties and states.
 - · Application through local public authority when wait list is open.
 - · Extensive wait times.
 - · Income limits can be looked up at: Income Limits | HUD USER
 - Non-Transferable (Project Based)
 - · Size based on number of people applying.
 - 30% of income minus some expenses deemed necessary.
 - · Allows service animals.
 - Section 202 (Older Adults) and Section 811 (Adults with Disabilities)



HANDOUT #1- FEDERAL RESOURCE DIAGRAM

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Origin: 1934--to increase home ownership. In 1987 began 5th core mission: a focus on homelessness.

McKinney Vento Act of 1987: Congress passed act which empowered HUD to work on 5th mission. Established COC in mid 90's in order to improve local efforts. (Public awareness of problem spurred creation.)

HEARTH Act (Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing. Signed into law on 5.20.2009. Amends and reauthorizes the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act with substantial changes:

- A consolidation of HUD's competitive grant programs creating Continuum of Care
- Creates a Rural Housing Stability Assistance Program
- Changed HUD's definition of homelessness/chronic homelessness
- Regulates definition of developmental disability for Shelter Plus care program and Supportive Housing Program. (Eliminated by COC's)
- Made HMIS, a data collection instrument, a requirement for COC's.

Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC)

(created by tax reform act of 1986) HUD created database. Largest Housing resource.

USICH (United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

Authorized by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. Solution Focused group comprised of Nineteen Federal Agencies who prepare reports and disseminate information. An "independent establishment" within the executive branch. Policy Makers who broke down silos.

Home Together

Home-Together-Federal-Strategic-Planto-Prevent-and-End-Homelessness.p

df (usich.gov)

Continuum of Care (CoC)—Part of HUD's process to coordinate efforts. Created by McKinney Vento and amended by HEARTH act. For planning and coordination of local efforts to "move the needle on homelessness."

Opening Doors

USICH OpeningD oors Amendment2 015 FINAL.pdf

CoC Interim Rule—

ederal Programs

First published in 2012, amended in 2017. Establishes regulations for COC including planning process and focuses on regulatory implementation.

https://www.hudexchan ge.info/resource/5064/c oc-program-interimrule-amendment-to-578<u>-51-c/</u>

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

Applies for and obtains HUD funding.

Improves Coordination of efforts in Homeless Service System.

Advocacy/Training/Tech Assistance/Point in Time count

Brief Background of Homelessness in California

In 1931 a section of WIC stated: "Every county and every city shall relieve and support . . . those incapacitated by age, disease, or accident..."

 Keep in mind that finding affordable housing is typically a two-step process.



What is safe and can meet most basic needs (need to have)

2

What is more desirable (nice to have)

Home Safe

Who is from an APS program who participated in the 2018 Home Safe Pilot?

What changes has the current Home Safe funding brought to your APS programs?

- · Home Safe was created to support safety and housing stability in adults involved with protective services,
- Provides multiple services, legislation written to give flexibility in how funds are used.
- Help for those who are homeless and at-risk of homelessness.
- In 2021 the eligibility was expanded to include individuals who are in the intake process for APS.

A study has found that it has increased collaboration with other social service programs and helped prevent homelessness for high-risk clients. The flexibility in funding added areatly to its success.

Project Roomkey to Project Homekey

Project Roomkey

- Launched by Gavin Newson in 2020 because people who cannot follow protective measures are at higher risk.
- Homeless Individuals were 2-4 times more likely to need critical care and 2-3 times more likely to die.
- Coordinated effort between FEMA and State.
- Temporary Measure.

Project Homekey

- · Building on the success of Project Roomkey to use the same ideas to provide permanent affordable housing.1-4 billion awarded to entities
- that apply.
- Continuum of Care in charge of awarding funds.
- Final awards ended 5.2.22.
 - Great website!
- Front page | Homekey (ca.gov)

https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-and-funding/homekey

Continuum of Care in California

Continuum of Care's are designed to:

- · Promote communitywide commitment to ending homelessness.
- Provide funding to nonprofits, state and local governments.
- Minimize trauma and dislocation to homeless individuals, and their communities.
- Optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness.
- Have a coordinated entry system that takes a "no wrong door" approach.

		•	ontinuum of Care (CoC	C) California Outreach List	ca_continuun	n_of_care_c	contacts
			Updated: J	January 2022			
Continuum of Care (CoC) Name	CoC ID	Point of Contact for Homesiess Persons	Plane	Enal	Alternate Contact	Plane	Enal
e, Inyo, Mono Counties CoC	CA-530						
dor, Calaveras, Mariposa Tuolumne Counties CoC	CA-526					_	
	1				1		

Understanding 211

2-1-1 Poll: What have you used 2-1-1 for?

- First enacted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in 2000.
- Each state is responsible for their own 2-1-1 program.
- Available to 96% of Californian's.
- Important gateway for multiple resources, including homelessness resources.
- Helps a person understand what documents they need to apply for resources, helps process their applications and/or information.



Temporary Shelters: Types

- Emergency Shelters:
 - Individuals can stay during the night but often have to vacate during the day unless the facility is designated as a day shelter also.
- Day Shelters:
 - Provide food, shelter and frequently case management services.
- Transitional Housing:
 - HUD definition: "a project that is designed to provide housing and appropriate supportive services to homeless persons to facilitate movement to independent living."
- Halfway Houses:
 - For individuals who are recovering from substance use issues, or recently been released from incarceration.
- Also consider Domestic Violence Shelters, Rehabilitation Centers, 90 day facilities.

Finding Shelter Resources

California Homeless Shelters (shelterlistings.org)

- · General listing for California shelters.
- Lot of information, impossible to be comprehensive
- Multiple types of shelters, including transitional.

Other Options

- Looking shelters up by county in a web search.
- Depending on county there are multiple websites for nonprofits, faith-based, etc.

Rooms For Rent

- Two Divisions: A person who has an extra room to rent out, or a person/entity that owns a house and rents the rooms.
 - They may offer ½ rooms
 - \$800.00 to \$950.00 for a room, \$550.00-\$650.00 for a half room.
- Requires a constant vigilance of the local ads, although websites may exist if it is a business entity.
- Maybe phrase as "the best way to wait for something better." (step 1).
- Conditions of room rentals vary widely, as do initial deposits and rules.
- Takes only a 30 day notice to evict.
- Room and Board's, Board & Care, etc.

Know all options and explain capabilities, pros and cons to clients.

Housing Authority

Housing Authority handles Public Housing and HUD establishes income levels for receiving assistance.

- Transferrable (Section 8)
 - Typically wait times in the years.
- · Non-Transferable (Project Based) 30% of income.
 - o 1-2 people can apply for studio or one bedroom.
 - If a caregiver is medically necessary single person can have a two bedroom.
 - Support animals typically allowed.

Word to the Wise: Watch the waitlists.

Identifying Resources

Activity instructions:

- Participants will be placed in break-out rooms, choose a leader.
- · Finding the local housing authority:
 - Choose one county for the group to look at.
 - Enter county's name + housing authority (e.g. Riverside County Housing Authority, Kern County Housing Authority, etc.) in your search engine.

Look For:

- Applicant Page
- · Open wait lists-open for how many bedrooms?
- Specifically for Older Adults?
- Income Scales?
- · Location? Close to basic needs?

Enter County name + Housing Authority and research:

Income Scales:

Wait lists that are open or other information about wait lists:

Information about the building itself:

What challenges might a client have with location to other appointments:

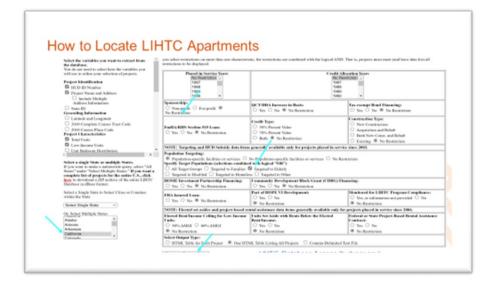
What is close by that can meet client's needs:

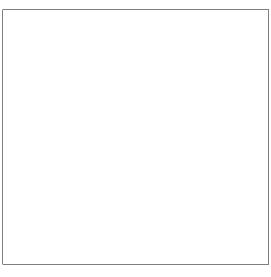
Other information:

Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC)

<u>Low Income Housing Tax Credits</u> (LIHTC) created by the tax reform act of 1986.

- This is an important source of affordable housing.
- Complex system of tax credits to encourage developers to build and maintain affordable housing.
- The IRS oversees the program.
- The California Tax Credit Allocation Agency administers this program.
- Cost of rent is set by a formula that determines what affordable is in the area.
- Largest source of LIHTC housing in California is The Conam Group which provides a search engine: Our Multifamily Property and Community Investments | CONAM





Assisted Living Wavier Program

- Helps older adults, or adults with disabilities, with a wavier that subsidizes the cost of living in an assisted living to prevent unnecessary institutionalization.
- Participants must help with the cost. In 2021 their share of cost was \$1079.37 or \$1099.37.
- California budgeted a 7000 slot expansion in 2021.
- To get on the waitlist a person would contact their local care coordination agency at Assisted Living Waiver Care Coordination Agencies

Participating Counties:

- Almeda
- Contra Costa
- Fresno
- Kern
- Los Angeles
- Orange
- Riverside
- Sacramento.
 San Bernardino
- · San Diego
- San Francisco
- San Joaquin
- San Mateo
- Santa Clara
- Sonoma

Looking at Specific Needs

"There is no greater disability in society than the inability to see a person as more." – Robert M. Hensel





Veterans

- HUD-VASH: Pairs HUD's Housing Choice Voucher assistance with case management and supportive services homeless Veterans.
 - Designed to find and sustain permanent housing.
 - (Funding is not always available)
- Domiciliary Care For Homeless Veterans Program (8 in CA)
 - In California the program is managed through calvet.ca.gov and is called <u>Veterans Homes of California which:</u>
 - Offers Independent Living to Memory Care.
 - · A veteran can apply at age 55.
 - · A spouse or partner can also be admitted.
 - Shared Rooms
 - No Pets



Individuals Living with Mental Illness

Mental Health Services Act:

- Voted in 2004.
- · Funded by a 1% income tax on incomes over 100.000 annually.
- Used to stabilize individuals living with severe mental illness and homeless, or at risk for homelessness.
- Provides services mainly through full partnership programs (FSP).
- Individuals who gain housing in this way need to commit to long term mental health services.

PATHS: Projects for Assistance in Transition From Homelessness. A block grant that can be searched for at SAMHSA.

Individuals with Documented Disabilities

- Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP):
 - California Department of Social Services (CDSS).
 - For homeless individuals who are eligible for disability benefits.
 - It can place a person as a priority on wait lists for housing.
 - If you go the Ca.gov CDSS page you will find on the right hand side a link to county points of contact. Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) County Points of Contact

Section 811: Section 811 Portal | HUD.gov / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Individuals Previously Involved with the Justice System

Helping a justice involved citizen obtain housing:

- Contact the local COC for re-entry resources.
- Determine if their re-entry program/parole officers can provide resources.
- Locate nonprofits or agencies that work specifically with this population

All Applicants to HUD supported housing have the right to appeal.

- Reference guide: Rentry-Manual-2018-FINALne.pdf (nhlp.org)
- Require a copy of all policies and records used to disqualify. The Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) disallows use of most negative records older than seven years.

Times are changing:

Preventing Homelessness Among People Leaving Prisons and Jails - HUD Exchange Reentry 2030 - Successful reintegration for every person

Individuals Who Are Registered Sex Offenders

High risk of homelessness due to limited resources and multiple rules about where they can live.

As of Jan 01, 2021, California implemented a tier system for sex offenses.

- o Tier 1 registers for 10 years
- o Tier 2 for 20, and
- Tier 3 for a lifetime.

Another option: Certificate of Rehabilitation.

· Allows a person to not register as a sex offender any longer.

If a person is registered as a sex offender, look for 290 housing. 290 housing is generally a paid room and may be reasonably priced.

Hurdles Exist

"In Life There is Always a Hurdle"- Gail Devers



Accessibility to Resources and Technology

What are some problems that you, as an APS professional, have seen with some older adults and technology?

Think back of your first few months of March 2020:

- Was it easy to keep up with which platform to use;
 Zoom, Microsoft Teams, GoTo, etc.?
- What about your equipment- headsets, cameras, reliable wifi.



Changes to the Brain

- As a brain gets older there are a wide spectrum of changes influenced by multiple factors.
- Many older adults can experience difficulty remembering information.
- This is seen on a spectrum that moves from mild to severe.
- Combined with many factors that one experiences while being homeless (e.g. constant flight/fight/freeze mode, etc.), navigation of a confusing system can be incredibly difficult.

Handout #2-Tip Sheet

Additional Challenges

Credit score/problems:

Do a credit score check and see what can be resolved.

Location:

Is the location a place where they can manage basic needs?

Fur Family & Support system:

One of the most problematic issues.

Age restraints for Housing:

- Different programs have different age limits. Determine when a person can get on a wait list.
- Alternatively look at housing for people with disabilities or rented

HANDOUT #2- NAVIGATING BARRIERS TIP SHEET

HELPING CLIENTS WITH FOLLOWING UP AND FOLLOWING THROUGH WITH TASKS:

Memory Aids

- Discuss wait lists and steps they need to take, who they need to contact
- Provide a journal, if allowed using emergency fund/Home Safe funds where they can write down tasks, steps and reminders
 - o Add Shopping List, Contact Numbers
- Calendar Clock
- Set Cell phone, if applicable, to permeant alarms
- Keep Sticky Notes
- Medication Reminder Boxes
- Color Code information or belongings
- Accessing or acquiring Electronic/Smart Devises
 - Apps that support reminders
 - Locator Devices

Memory Tips

- Chunk the information: (example: Don't remember 39237, remember 39 thousand, two hundred and thirty-seven)
- Sing-song—Pair information with music you know:
 - o Down in the Doctor, The Doctor so low, At 2:30 PM I have to go.
- Adequate sleep helps memory, work on sleep hygiene.
- Brain or body exercise.
- Medical work-up. Low levels of some vitamins, such as B vitamin can make memory work harder.
- Socialize.
- Manage Chronic Conditions.
- Implement Routines. Ex. My keys go **nowhere** but my right pocket of my jacket.

BARRIERS WITH LOW CREDIT SCORE:

Help with free Credit Report and work towards what can be resolved first. (SMART goal)

BARRIERS WITH JUSTICE INVOLVED CLIENTS:

- Appeal: If HUD supporting Housing
 - o National Housing Law Project: An Affordable Home on Reentry
- Complain: Department of Fair Employment and Housing
- Require a copy of all policies and records to disqualify.
 - The Fair Credit Reporting Act disallows use of most negative records older than seven years

LOCATIONS:

- Consider client needs:
 - o Groceries, Doctors, support system, transportation, where are they located?
 - Accessibility, time it will take to get to appointments

FUR FAMILY & SUPPORT SYSTEM:

- If they person has fur family you must only look for accommodations that takes fur family.
- Consider what support system can be built?
 - o IHSS, Senior Centers, Church, Closeness to family & friends.

AGE REQUIREMENTS:

- Look at age requirements for entering wait list and getting into housing.
- Consider the two-step method:
 - $\circ\hspace{0.4cm}$ Where can the person go now while they wait to get somewhere they prefer.
 - o Also consider their demographics.
 - Do they have any other criteria or circumstances that provides options in other ways?

Service Planning and Collaboration

Activity Instructions:

- Breakout groups will have an assigned vignette and apply today's resources (housing) and others (non-housing and/or housing) that you know of to the your vignette.
- Individually, take 5 min to read your vignette and review resources.
- Next: As a group work for 15 min to look more in-depth at possible resources and choose which ones you think are best and why.
 - Choose a group leader to report out.
 - Take everything into consideration, what they might qualify for, what is do-able for now (short term goals) and what can be more permanent (long term goals).

Possible Housing Resources that may apply and why:
Possible Non-Housing Resources that may apply and why:

HANDOUT #3- CASE VIGNETTES

Case # 1: Christine

Christine is 70 and retired five years ago. Her income is \$1425 monthly from social security. Since her house is paid off it seemed like enough--until serious inflation hit. She hadn't saved much for retirement because it was expensive raising 2 children. Initially, a small nest egg had existed. But Christine's house is 40 years old and needed several large repairs that wiped out most of her carefully saved nest egg.

Two years ago, Christine's partner, Helen, died unexpectedly. They were not married, or in a domestic partnership. After all those years together, it did not seem necessary. Unfortunately, that was another serious hit to her finances, halving the income she had when Helen was alive.

Christine is also having some decline in her eyesight. Enough that the doctor filed a report with the DMV, who took away her license. She finds her house needs another large repair. In discouragement she sells her beloved home with all of its memories and moves into a single wide in a 55+ mobile home park. But they raised the space rent—twice. She moved in at \$450 a month. It is now \$725 and the park quit paying the water. The proceeds from her home are going down fast. She has about \$20,000 left. And unfortunately, Christine is finding that mobile homes need maintenance also.

Christine starts trying to figure out how to make her money stretch. But now she can't drive and she needs help to get anywhere. It's hard using the bus to get groceries. So she uses a taxi, but then she has to go to the closest store—which is more expensive. Other than that she just stays home all the time to save money.

Christine is depressed and afraid. She worked all of her life, she always took care of herself and her children and she doesn't even know how to get any help. Can she get food stamps? Is there a way to get someone to take her places that she needs to go? What happens when she can't afford living expenses anymore? Life is feeling kind of precarious.

The mobile home manager is worried. Christine's space is looking shabby. There is a leak coming out of her swamp cooler that is getting bigger. Since people have to pay for their own water now she knows it is costing Christine. When she knocks on the door there is no answer. One of Christine's neighbors tells the manager she hasn't seen Christine for days. The manager is getting more worried and made a request to Law Enforcement for a welfare check. After LE conducted their check, they report to APS report for possible self-neglect.

Case #2: Tom CONTENT WARNING: reference to sexual abuse and suicide

Tom is 62. He has lived a life of "what works for me now?" It hasn't led to the smartest choices. Tom worked off and on. When he needed to he did. When he didn't need to he didn't. He was good at finding women who would support them. And he sincerely loved those women. He grieved for each one of his three wives when they died. His last wife died a year ago. She had owned the house and had told him the house was his if anything happened to her. But her children did not like Tom and when Susie died, they evicted Tom.

He had severe neuropathy in his feet and couldn't move around well. He had to use a walker and sometimes a wheelchair. He only had disability social security to live on, \$1041.21. Who could live on that? Tom solved his problem by moving to California to live with his sister. She loved him. She would take care of him.

Only some nosy person went through the Megan's law registry and suddenly there were flyers all over the neighborhood. Tom was angry. They were picking on him because of something that happened more than 20 years ago. He had paid his dues; he had served the time. He always registered with Megan's law—he called the cops every January to make sure he abided by the law. He never wanted to go back to jail.

Things were starting to look bad now. His sister was getting grief from her neighbors. It was a retirement community; it wasn't as if kids lived there. No one wanted to talk to her anymore since she "harbored sexual predators." She had been disinvited from her bunco team. Someone kept slipping notes into the mailbox telling them both to leave. His nieces were really angry—furious—at what Tom was putting their mom through.

Tom knew he needed to get going. But he couldn't find anywhere to go. Prices were expensive around here. He never asked for much, just a roof over his head and his TV. He wouldn't bother anyone if he could get those.

Tom thought about driving his car off a cliff. Go out with a bang and stop being a problem to people he loved. He had screwed up all those years ago—he got that. But no one could ever let it rest. Desperate he called up the Adult Protective Services and made a report on himself.

Case #3: Eduardo

Eduardo is 67. He has a bad back. He has a car. He has no home. He did have a home, but he had signed over his home to his son. Then his son sold the home. He'd told Edward he would never do that, not until Eduardo was gone. He doesn't know why his son did that. Just because he hadn't been around when his son was growing up? That had been a decision made for his son. He and his ex-wife fought about everything. He had to get away before he did something he regretted. Once his son was an adult Tom got back in touch with him. Tried to set a good example and make sure the boy knew the word of God. The relationship remained strained due to Eduardo's leaving the family.

Eduardo, who had decided long ago that people were just problems is sinking further into his anger, bitterness and distrust as he realizes he has lost everything. He lost his home church. He lost his solitude. He used to value his computer, but he sold that because who can use a computer in a car? The only thing Eduardo now values is his car and his bible.

Eduardo spends a lot of time thinking about what he wants. He wants his computer back. He wants his Medicare straightened out because he has been moving around and that has made it difficult to use. He worked hard a good 20 years of his life and he is stuck with a measly \$1324.22 each month. Seems to him he should be getting more.

When he left his home he just drove, not knowing where to stop. He found he could park in certain places overnight, some rest stops, some stores, and no one would bother him. He also found he could find side roads and remote areas to park his car and sleep safe at night. But the cold winters in Northern California make his back hurt so much more. Eduardo drove south and found a convenience store where the owner took a liking to the angry old man who quoted bible verses and always found money to smoke like chimney. He told him he could park in the back parking lot for the winter if he didn't bug anyone. The store owner also called APS and asked if they could help the old guy. He said the guy's back hurt a lot, but he didn't think he was going to the doctor. And he was pretty sure he was buying pain meds off the street. What could they do to help?

Upon first approaching Eduardo, APS found he had no phone. And he hadn't been to the doctor in "a long time." Eduardo also wanted to know why the APS professional wasn't at home, "taking care of her family instead of bugging him?"

Case # 4: Marvia

Marvia is 84 years old and served four years in the Army as a WAC (Women's Army Corps) when she was young. She is very proud of her service and overall, Marvia is a happy, optimistic and welcoming lady. When the APS professional came to see her after her Pastor called in a report, she wanted to know all about him, and how long he had been helping people.

Marvia has no family. Her one daughter has died of cancer 14 years previously. Her two brothers live thousand of miles away. Her husband of 58 years died last year. Her husband's death also meant Marvia took a big financial loss as he was the main breadwinner. She currently is scraping by on just what she earned in social security benefits, which is about \$980.

Marvia is very active in her church. Her pastor makes sure someone picks her up for church each Sunday, and for all other events she wants to attend. She loves worship and "rocking out for God." She likes to participate in the ministry to shut-in's by faithfully writing letters to her assigned people. She views any and all adversity as a way to make become more Christlike.

Her one companion is Elsie, a Jack Terrier. Elsie has figured out if she sits on her back legs and begs Marvia will give her a treat. She has also found out Marvia quickly forgets she gave Elsie a treat. All Elsie has to do is walk away for a few minutes and then come back and beg. Elsie is a smart dog. She is also an obese dog.

Marvia's Pastor reported her to APS because Marvia is getting very thin since her husband died. And when he visits her in adverse weather she never seems to have either her air, or her heat on. One of the parishioners that helps Marvia get groceries commented that Mariva's shopping cart is filling up less and less, and her main concern seems to be getting dog biscuits. Recently the Pastor sat down with Marvia and told her how concerned he was about her thinness and asked if she was eating the dog biscuits. Marvia started laughing at him, pointed to her dog and said Elise didn't share. The Pastor laughed, but he continued to ask questions, including "Are you getting enough food? We can help you."

Marvia became tearful and explained she was having a lot of trouble with bills since her husband died. She was already late on her mortgage by two months. "I just can't keep up with the bills," she says. "I don't know what I'm going to do." The Pastor has been making sure Marvia has enough food since that discussion. But he feels she needs more help than he can provide and calls in a report to APS hoping they can do something.

HANDOUT #4- ADDITIONAL RESOURCES (NON-HOUSING)

- California Department of Aging: Cal Fresh, Ombudsman, HICAP, etc.
 Programs & Services Consumer | California Department of Aging State of California
- Catholic Charities: Multiple Resources.
 FIND YOUR LOCAL CATHOLIC CHARITIES Catholic Charities USA
- CARE/FERA Program: 30%-35% reduction on electric 20% reduction on gas.
 CARE/FERA Program
- Find a Community Action Partnership: Multiple Resources
 Find A CAP | National CAP (communityactionpartnership.com)
- Need Help Paying Bills: Water Bill Assistance
 Note: Always call the local water company and inquire about senior assistance.
 <u>Utility and energy bill assistance California (needhelppayingbills.com)</u>
- The Senior List: Multiple Discounts
 2022 Biggest List of Senior Discounts (Restaurants, Retail, Travel & More) (theseniorlist.com)
- Low Income Internet Access: Affordable Internet Options | insightallday.com

Activity Debrief

 Group leaders share just ONE of the best resources, why it applied to your person and why you felt it was the best



Where Do You Go From Here?



"Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?"

'That depends a good deal on where you want to get to,' said the Cat.

'I don't much care where -' said Alice.

'Then it doesn't matter which way you go,' said the Cat.'

- so long as I get SOMEWHERE,' Alice added as an explanation.
- 'Oh, you're sure to do that,' said the Cat, 'if you only walk long enough."



California's Master Plan for Aging

Created in June 2019 by Governor Newsom who called for a Master Plan for Aging.

- To promote healthy aging.
- To prepare for the demographic shift in population.
- This plan has five goals which are focused on recovery and resiliency:
 - Housing for all Ages and Stages
 - Health reimagined
 - Inclusions and Equity, not isolation
 - Caregiving that works
 - Affordable Aging

Watch as it unfolds at: Master Plan for Aging





Human Services Omnibus- CA AB 135

AB 135- Human Services Omnibus became effective July 16, 2021. The importance to the APS Professional:

- Enlarges definition of "eligible individual" for Adult Protective Services to include a detailed definition of homeless or at risk of
- Supports continued flexibility in how funds are used for Home Safe.
- Housing related assistance must utilize evidence-based practices.
- Asks that needs for long term assistance be referred to local continuum of care services.
- Sets down data tracking mandates.
- Expands age of eligibility for older adults to 60 years of age.

Continuing Education: Websites and Email Lists

- Community Care Expansion:
 - \$805 million to expand the state's housing and care continuum and prevent homelessness/unnecessary institutionalization
- Welcome to HUD Exchange HUD Exchange:
 - Join Mailing list
- Home National Alliance to End Homelessness:

 Excellent website. Breaks down developments and has an email subscription.

Sends out any breaking news when you subscribe to emails. Public Housing Authority: Watch the page and some have newsletters. Home - Homeless and Housing Strategies for California (homelessstrategy.com): Helps you stay informed about the legislation. Home Page California Department of Aging - State of California: Mandated by AB 135 to administer a pilot program, Access to Technology. Front page Homekey (ca.gov): Watch Project Homekey as it grows. Multiple tabs to go through, including a "Dashboard" that helps you see who is being awarded the money.

HANDOUT #5- LINKS TO RESOURCES & CONTINUED EDUCATION

<u>Assisted Living Waiver (ca.gov)</u>

Subsidizes Cost of Assisted Living Facility. Can have long wait times.

California Homeless Shelters (shelterlistings.org

Community Care Expansion

CONAM: Our Multifamily Property and Community Investments | CONAM

Large LIHTC Developer. Has multiple properties with contact information.

Find Your Local Continuum of Care (COC):

■ Find a Grantee - HUD Exchange or Grantee Contact Information - HUD Exchange.

Find your local HUD Office:

 State Information | HUD.gov / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Find your local Public Housing Authority:

 PHA Contact Information - HUD | HUD.gov / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

HCD Mobile Home Assistance Center (ca.gov)

• Links to laws governing Mobile Home Owners, Community Resources, such as senior help lines and legal aid, and other information and links.

Home | National Reentry Resource Center

Housing and Disability Advocacy Program

Housing Programs (ca.gov)

Home Page | California Department of Aging - State of California

HUD Find a Shelter Page:

• Find Shelter | HUD.gov / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

HUD Shelters and Emergency Housing for California: Version 1 April 2022

 Shelters and Emergency Housing: California | HUD.gov / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

HUD Definition of Chronic Homelessness:

 CoC and ESG Homeless Eligibility - Definition of Chronic Homelessness - HUD Exchange

HUD established income limits for *Tenant Based Housing Choice Voucher Program* (Transferable Housing Vouchers/Section 8)

Income Limits | HUD USER

<u>Legislation and Funding Archives - Homeless and Housing Strategies for California</u> (homelessstrategy.com):

Post all Developments in California Legislation

LIHTC Database Access (huduser.gov)

- Select State.
- Select "No Restriction."
- Select "targeted to elderly."
- Retrieve Data.

<u>Local Offices | HUD.gov / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development</u> (HUD)

• <u>To Determine current funding for Section 202 (older adults) and Section 811 (Those with disabilities).</u>

<u>Maps for California Continuums of Care - Homeless and Housing Strategies for California</u> (homelessstrategy.com)

Master Plan for Aging (ca.gov)

Memory aids and tools | Alzheimer's Society (alzheimers.org.uk)

National Alliance to End Homelessness -

Breaks down what is going on. Also has an email subscriber list (bottom of page).

National Call Center for Homeless Vets:

National Call Center for Homeless Veterans - VA Homeless Programs

<u>PETITION FOR CERTIFICATION OF REHABILITATION</u> <u>Law section (ca.gov)</u>

• (For Individuals with a history of sexual offenses)

<u>Preventing Homelessness Among People Leaving Prisons and Jails - HUD Exchange</u>

Project Homekey:

Front page | Homekey (ca.gov)

Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) | SAMHSA

(very minimal budget)

Reentry2030 - Successful reintegration for every person

<u>Section 811 Portal | HUD.gov / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)</u>

Rentry-Manual-2018-FINALne.pdf (nhlp.org)

Rural Housing Stability Assistance Program: Low Interest Home Loans

<u>California | Rural Development (usda.gov)</u>

United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) (email sign-up)

VETERAN'S HOMES OF CALIFORNIA:

Welcome to the Veterans Homes of California

Welcome to HUD Exchange - HUD Exchange

(Email sign-up)

Workshop Wrap Up

- Housing First focuses on most basic needs
- This is a difficult journey with many opportunities to collaborate
- Knowing available resources can help set short term and long term goals with clients

What is one key takeaway from today's workshop?



My Takeaway(s)

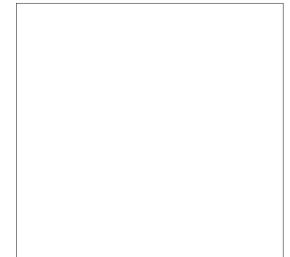
Review of Series and Way Forward

The only constant in APS: the need to stay informed!

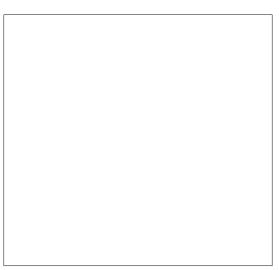
- Workshop #1: Homelessness in Older Adults: Examining the Layers
- Workshop #2: Responding to APS Cases Involving Adults Experiencing Homelessness
- Workshop #3: Precarious Housing and Homelessness in Older Adults: Resources and Collaboration











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REVOLUTIONIZE THE WAY PEOPLE WORK TO ENSURE THE WORLD IS A HEALTHIER PLACE.