

Going Beyond the Traditional Model: What Lies Ahead for Housing First?

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Fio.PSD

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The Housing First Era

- National policy in Canada
- De facto national policy in U.S.
- Widespread adoption in European nations (Denmark, Finland, Portugal, Netherlands, France, Italy, Belgium, Norway, Spain, Ireland, Scotland, etc.)
- Solid presence in Australia and New Zealand

HOUSING FIRST



Ending Homelessness,
Transforming Systems,
and Changing Lives

DEBORAH K. PADGETT, BENJAMIN F. HENWOOD, & SAM J. TSEMBERIS

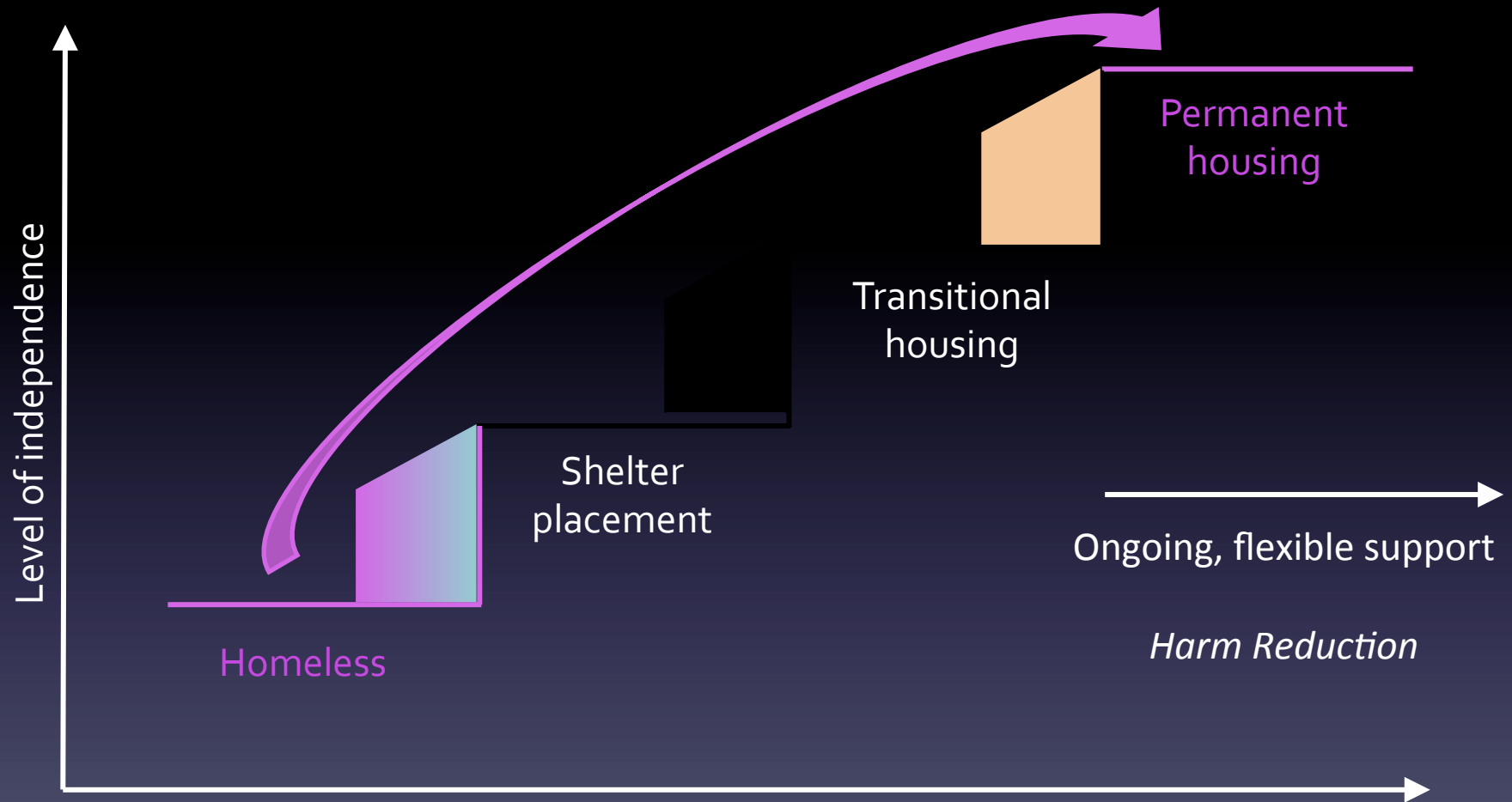
OXFORD



Housing First Guide Europe

Nicholas Pleace





Supported housing + Assertive Community Treatment + Consumer choice

• HOUSING FIRST

- Broad evidence base
- Leading preference of consumers
- Manualized; fidelity measures
- Less expensive (savings higher in high-cost systems in U.S.)
- Depends on private rental market or public/social housing
- Privacy/autonomy

NOT HOUSING FIRST

- Anecdotes; lack of evidence
- Not first preference of most consumers
- Ad hoc; implicit staircase
- More costly (direct costs as well as indirect costs when consumers drop out)
- Depends on institutional living—buildings (new or existing), shelters, etc. Capital-intensive
- Supervised social living

What about that 15-20%?



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 **Routledge**
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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Tenants with additional needs: when housing first does not solve homelessness

Jennifer S. Volk¹, Tim Aubry¹, Paula Goering², Carol E. Adair³, Jino Distasio⁴, Jonathan Jette¹, Danielle Nolin⁵, Vicky Stergiopoulos⁶, David L. Streiner^{7,2}, and Sam Tsemberis⁸

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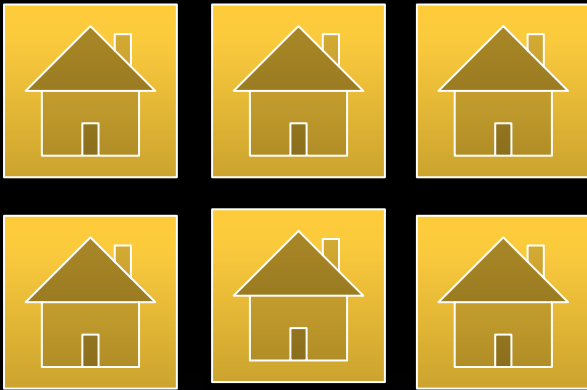
Predicting Who Does Not Do Well in HF

Conclusion by Volk et al. study

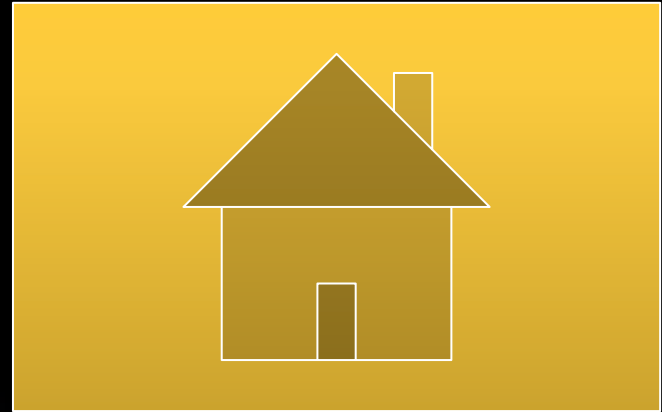
- It is not possible to predict confidently at baseline who will experience housing instability in HF
- There are certain individual characteristics that might be considered risk factors (e.g., previous incarceration) but none are conclusive
- *Providing HF to all individuals who qualify for a HF program remains the most valid way to administer admission to housing.*

Differences in HF Implementation

1. **Type of accommodation:** Single-site/shared vs. scatter-site/not-shared
2. **Harm reduction vs. sobriety ethos**
3. **Site of service delivery:** in community vs. clinic (on-site vs. in-home)
4. **Devolution of professional power** to favor client choice



Vs.



Scatter
Site-Solo
Occupant



OR

Scatter
Site
Shared



Single Site
Shared Occupancy



(Mis)Perception of Housing First Scatter-Site

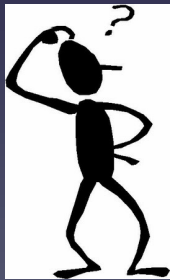




Clinic/hospital/program



On-Site at Program Housing



Primary Site
Of Service
Delivery



In the Home

Creating a Supportive Service Environment: A Team Approach

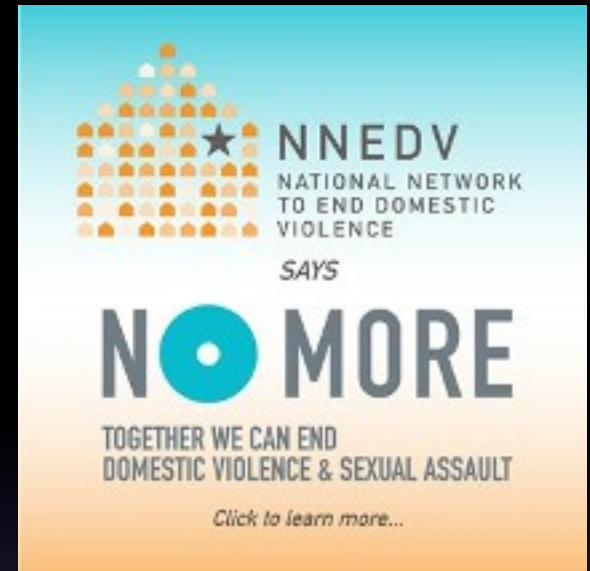


Expanding HF to new groups

- Families—multi-systems (schools, child welfare, courts/custody, domestic violence, need for larger units)
- Domestic/partner violence—no more congregate shelters?
- Youths --foster care, LGBTQ, ‘throw-away kids’ (family dysfunction as well as poverty)

Housing First for Families: Rapid-Rehousing and Rent Subsidies (deep and shallow)





HOUSING FIRST AND PARTNER VIOLENCE
(Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation)



HOUSING FIRST IS ABOUT MUCH MORE THAN SIMPLY HOUSING



Housing Supports



Supports for Health & Well-being



Supporting Access to Income & Education



Complementary Supports



Opportunities for Meaningful Engagement

Supports must be driven by the needs of the client, rather than the structure of the program.

THE CORE PRINCIPLES OF HOUSING FIRST FOR YOUTH INCLUDE:



Immediate access to permanent housing with no housing readiness requirements



Youth choice and self-determination



Positive youth development orientation



Individualized and client-driven supports



Social and community integration

Housing First supports must be youth oriented.

HOUSING FIRST FOR YOUNG PEOPLE REQUIRES DIFFERENT MODELS OF ACCOMMODATION



There need to be a range of housing options to meet the needs of young people who are transitioning to adulthood.

HOUSING FIRST CAN WORK FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



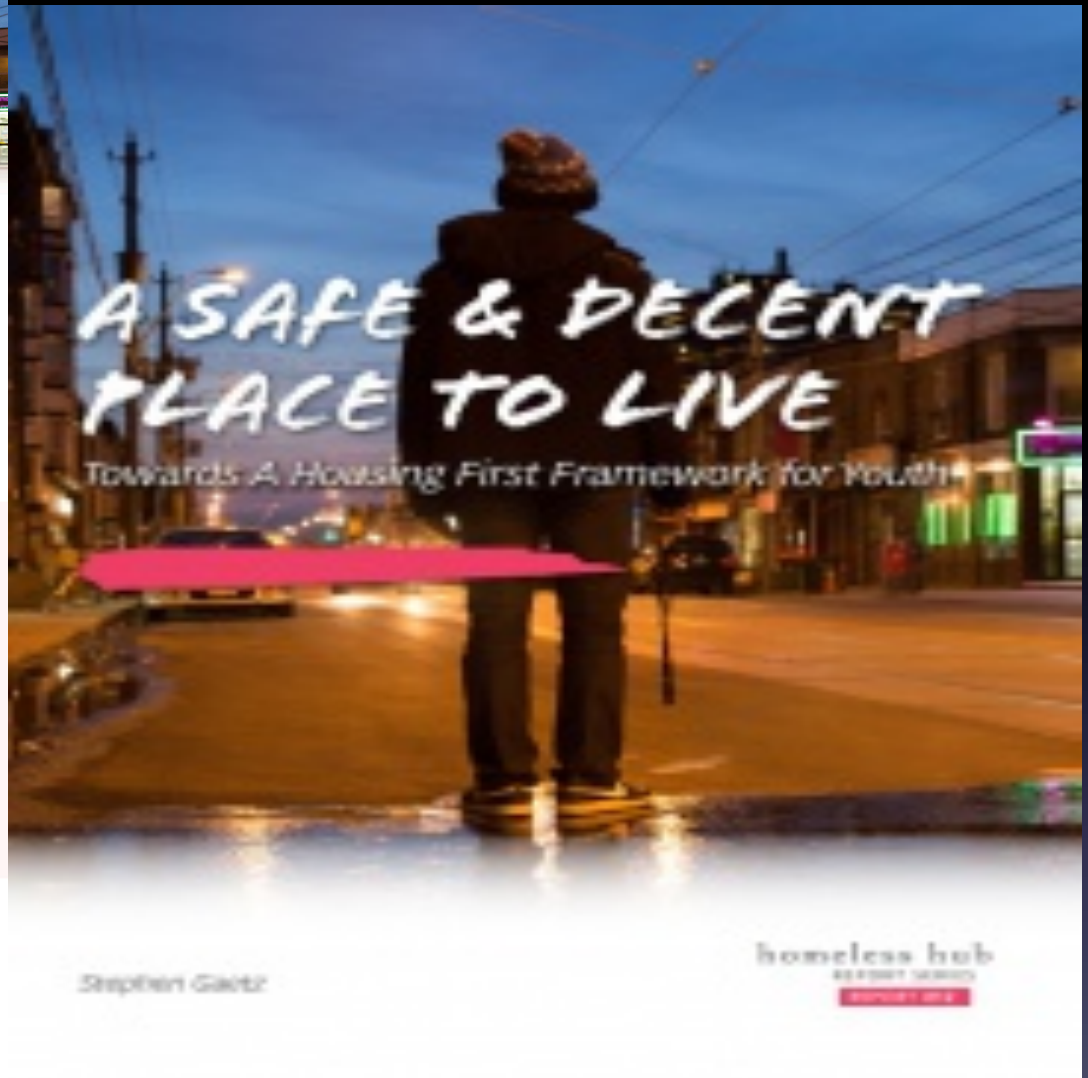
To learn more, visit:

www.homelesshub.ca/housingfirstyouth

[@homelesshub](https://twitter.com/homelesshub)

[/homelesshub](https://facebook.com/homelesshub)

#HFYouth



HF for Youth in Canada
Calgary Infinity Project

Challenges for Housing First and Any Program

- Shortened life span
- Physical health/injuries
- Lack of work history and education
- History of trauma (childhood abuse; migration)
- Depleted social networks

Housing First in the Future?



Grazie!

