

Where Are We Now?

Our challenges to preventing homelessness:

- time in institutions is often too short for finding housing, employment or needed services
- lack of coordinated services
- transportation challenges
- not enough permanent housing in the community for all income levels
- shelters are not equipped to handle medical follow-up
- nursing homes are not transitional housing
- more rigid guidelines for housing applicants
- individuals lack budgeting skills
- youth are aging out of foster care without a solid support network
- community is still learning about the struggles, needs and long-term solutions for homelessness

Where Are We Headed?

As a coalition, we can ...

CREATE a coordinated network of resources for institutions to assist in planning for the release of those they serve

ENSURE that housing options are provided to individuals who are homeless prior to being released from the facility or system

ADVOCATE for increased housing and improved coordination of services that promote self-sufficiency

How Can YOU Get Involved?

Join the full
Discharge Planning Coalition
quarterly on the third Friday of
April, July, October, & January
at 1:00 p.m.
in the Large Group Room at
Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library
Central Library
200 SE MLK Jr. Blvd.
(downtown Evansville)

Join a Team

Health Care, Foster Care,
or Corrections

For more information,
contact the Coalition Coordinator
at 774-1480 or
homelink@destination-home.info

Visit the website at
www.destination-home.info/dpc.htm

The Discharge Planning Coalition
is a committee of the city-county

Commission on Homelessness

which oversees the implementation of
*Destination: Home — a Ten-Year Journey
to End Homelessness in
Evansville & Vanderburgh County*



Destination: Home
PO Box 74
Evansville, IN 47701-0074
P: 812.428.4975
F: 812.428.3253
E: info@destination-home.info
W: www.destination-home.info

PLANNING *discharge* COALITION

*a homeless prevention network
of community institutions*



together we can

prevent

homelessness

among those

released from

health care,

corrections,

or *foster care*

What Areas Concern Us?

Health Care



Laurie, age 25, was briefly hospitalized for diabetes and heart trouble. Prior to entering the hospital, she was living on the streets. She will be released in two days with her new insulin pre-

scription and instructions for bed rest.
How do we prevent Laurie's homelessness?

Together we can address ...

- case management planning which focuses on assuring stable housing upon discharge
- continuity of care and adherence to recommended follow-up treatment
- increased cost incurred due to ineffective and incomplete recuperation

"people without homes suffer from ill health at a much higher rate than people living in stable housing"

Why Does Family Homelessness Occur, American Journal of Public Health



"Failure to appropriately discharge persons leaving institutional care is a contributing cause of homelessness. Public systems may fail to prevent homelessness because they are not held responsible for doing so, and because they often do not have the resources and expertise."

Schwab Foundation report
"Holes in the Safety Net: Mainstream Systems and Homelessness"

Corrections

Larry has been incarcerated for four years. When he committed his crime he was actively substance abusing. He has underlying mental health problems for which he received treatment while serving his sentence. At the end of the week, he will be released with a five-day supply of medication.



How do we prevent Larry's homelessness?

Together we can address ...

- lack of income immediately upon release which limits housing options
- connecting to health insurance and other community services
- re-entry into the community and establishing self-sufficiency

"Housing is the cornerstone of reentry: the indispensable and fundamental basis upon which prisoners begin to build new lives."

Bradley, Oliver, Richardson, & Slater, No Place Like Home: Housing & the Ex-prisoner

Foster Care

Lavon turns eighteen in two weeks, having spent the past nine years in foster care homes. No family connections are available. Lavon has a year of high school to complete. Upon turning 18, she will age out of foster care and no longer have access to state-provided housing.



How do we prevent Lavon's homelessness?

Together we can address ...

- pre-release planning which identifies links to housing and community services
- awareness of resources available for youth who will age out of the system
- transitioning from a state-supported system to a community support network

"three in ten of the nation's homeless adults report foster care history"

Web of Failure, Roman & Wolfe, National Alliance to End Homelessness

PLANNING COALITION

INTEREST CARD

Name _____ Organization _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Add me to the DPC email/ mailing list. Contact me because I want to get more involved with

Health Care Community Corrections Foster Care Legislation Data Collection/Evaluation

Comments/Questions:

My donation of \$ _____ is enclosed. (Please make checks payable to "Aurora" with "DPC" in the memo line)

Mail this form to **Discharge Planning Coalition, PO Box 74, Evansville, IN 47701-0074**