



HCH Pioneers Explore the Past and Address the Future of HCH

Portland, Oregon -- Friday, June 3, 2016 -- 8:00AM to 12:00PM

Health Care for the Homeless (HCH) began as a national demonstration program that started in 1985, was replicated in the 1987 McKinney Act, and now serves 850,000 people experiencing homelessness each year through 270 federally funded health centers. Over three decades, the National HCH Council has successfully gathered the interests of health care professionals, researchers, advocates and people without homes into a respected, coherent and principled movement that insists upon quality care and the human right to housing and health care.

Little documentation of this remarkable health care justice movement exists. Many of the long-time leaders of HCH are now transitioning, and seek a means to gather for future leaders their collective experience and insights, even as the health care environment changes rapidly and new homelessness interventions emerge.

AGENDA

8:00-8:10 Welcome—John Lozier, Moderator

8:10-8:30 **Vision & Values:** From its beginnings as a foundation-funded demonstration program, HCH has been distinguished from many other homeless programs by its balanced commitments to direct service, policy advocacy, consumer involvement, and ending homelessness.

Key questions: How was this balance established and maintained? What was the original vision for the work, and were the values applied throughout the projects?

Invited Panelists: Barbara Conanan, Sharon Brammer

8:30-8:50: **Evolution of the Model of Care:** HCH was first characterized as outreach-oriented primary care delivered by physician-nurse-social worker teams.

Key questions: How has the “HCH model of care” changed in the past 30 years? What factors have contributed to changes over time (e.g., McKinney Act; Health Center Consolidation Act; Affordable Care Act, managed care, new treatment options)? How does the HCH model fit with the current health care environment?

Invited Panelists: Jim O’Connell, Jean Hochron, Vince Keane

- 8:50-9:10 Table discussion* regarding Evolution of the Model of Care
- 9:10-9:40 **Impact:** HCH still exists as a distinct service within health centers and other service systems.
Key questions: How has HCH interacted with mainstream service providers, such as hospitals, other health centers, behavioral health providers, public health departments, Medicaid & other payers, and health professions schools? Has HCH affected other justice movements? Has HCH improved the health of the homeless population as a whole? If yes, how? If not, why not?
- Invited Panelists:** John Parvensky, Ed Blackburn, Bobby Watts, Heidi Nelson
- 9:40-10:10 Table discussion regarding Impact
- 10:10-10:30 Large group feedback on Impact
- 10:30-11:00 BREAK
- 11:00-11:30 **Ongoing Work:** Homelessness is likely to persist for the foreseeable future, and people without homes will need health care.
Key questions: In an era of expanding health insurance coverage and the broader adoption of evidence-based practices such as integrated, trauma-informed care teams, what is the ongoing role for HCH projects? How must the model evolve? How can HCH help prevent and end homelessness? What is the mandate for HCH leaders moving forward?
- Invited Panelists:** Kevin Lindamood, Jenny Metzler, Barbara DiPietro, Gary Cobb
- 11:30-11:55 Large group feedback on Ongoing Work
- 12:00 Closing comments

*At two points in this session, participants will be invited to discuss at their tables the ideas presented by the panelists, and to add their own responses to the key questions posed above. These conversations will be facilitated by HCH Pioneers, and careful notes will be taken at each table to inform the proceedings document.

HCH Pioneers invited to facilitate table discussions:

Alan Ainsworth
 Tom Andrews
 Mark Casanova
 Michael Cousineau
 Ernesto Gomez
 Ed Stellan

Marsha McMurray-Avila
 Marianne Savarese
 Marion Scott
 Amy Sparks

Proceedings writer: Josephine Ensign