

HEALTHCARE AND HOUSING (H²) SYSTEMS INTEGRATION INITIATIVE NASHVILLE

Action Plan Overview

NASHVILLE H² ACTION PLAN¹

Goals and Strategies: Nashville has identified four goals, each of which focuses on a key area of activity essential to achieving their vision of improving health and housing stability for Nashville's neediest residents.

Build and Enhance Cross-System Relationships to Foster Collaboration and Effective Data Sharing to Improve Housing Stability and Health Outcomes.

- Create a multidisciplinary data committee to oversee implementation of all strategies and action steps in this section of the plan.
- Define new (or supplemental) questions for health care providers to ask to identify unstably housed or homeless patients, and questions for housing providers/homeless assistance providers to ask to identify clients who need enrollment assistance and/or health care services.
- Determine what point in housing-side client engagement process should link to health care services.
- Convene community partners, and train them on the language and data collected. Explore shared outcomes.
- Expand HMIS: Outreach to non-CoC providers and Health Care providers to engage them in HMIS.
- Create data-sharing pilot demonstration(s).
- Create pilot program to identify people who frequently use/cycle through high cost systems (e.g. EMS, jails, psychiatric hospitals, institutions).
- Down the line, conduct Return on Investment analysis for each pilot/new program.
- Develop geo-spatial data and mapping to see trends – where are people moving, etc.
- Use data to identify subpopulations of client-base that are falling through the cracks.
- Identify cross-system performance measures.

Build Capacity for Integrating Health, Behavioral Health, Housing, and Social Services for People Experiencing Homelessness and Low-Income People Living with HIV/AIDS.

- Explore how to better coordinate and enhance communication with local partners.
- Strengthen existing partnerships with healthcare; focus on integration models and test/pilot new ideas.
- Examine realistic possibilities around integrating housing and healthcare in Nashville.
- Expand or pilot structures that promote connectivity and delivery of integrated care.

¹ The Nashville H² Action Plan Draft is currently being finalized by the Leadership Team, and therefore the Goals and Strategies presented here are subject to change.

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- Enhance access to health care and behavioral health services needed to maximize health, manage ongoing conditions, and facilitate housing retention.
- Strengthen supportive housing and health care partnerships.
- Strengthen continuity of care to streamline service delivery and ensure effectiveness.
- Advocate for Medicaid expansion.
- Identify other sources of funding for essential services not eligible for Medicaid reimbursement.

Increase Collaboration Between Housing and Health Care Systems to Improve Communication, Education, and Access to Housing, Services, and Comprehensive Health Care by People Experiencing Homelessness and Low-Income People Living with HIV/AIDS.

- Expand the SOAR model to help facilitate enrollment.
- Streamline/improve Medicaid enrollment, especially for transient people experiencing homelessness who have come from out of state.
- Streamline Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency (MDHA)'s housing applications to reduce client burden and fatigue.
- Educate population/providers regarding existing safety net programs (e.g. sliding fee clinics).
- Address gap in prescription services.
- Increase and improve transportation available to link members of target population to health care providers and pharmacies.
- Create expanded and more comprehensive medical respite programs. (e.g. Room at the Inn; link to Hospital To Home efforts).
- Expand psych respite programs.
- Research rules surrounding forced medication in community (as compared to hospital/in-patient setting).
- Expand services tailored to women to better reflect the ratio of homeless men to women.
- Create medically-supervised detox programs.
- To address the capacity gap for non-TennCare clients, create treatment options for homeless people who have co-occurring conditions or mental health issues (particularly for in-patient care and long-term care) (income & disability are strict criteria).
- Expand oral health care options (e.g. dental clinics, programs with dental students).
- Create a screening tool that returns eligibility across benefit programs: insurance, Medicaid, food stamps, housing programs, etc.

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Maximize Efficient Utilization of Existing Housing Assistance and Health Care Resources to Support Access, Retention, Stability, and Positive Outcomes for People Experiencing Homelessness and Low-Income People Living with HIV/AIDS.

- Continue to seek expansion of Medicaid in Tennessee.
- Research potential use of Medicaid to fund the services needed by frequent/high utilizers.
- Maximize use of Medicaid to finance services that support stable housing.
- Determine which current CoC-funded supportive services could be funded by Medicaid.
- Create working group to research Medicaid waivers.
- Research the Medicaid Innovation Accelerator Program (IAP) for ideas to implement locally, with the goal of expanding Health Homes.
- Sustain and expand Hospital To Home. Support and facilitate efforts to enlist additional hospitals.
- Evaluate the success and cost-benefits of current Ryan White state program that utilize ADAP funds to pay health premiums for those not eligible for Medicaid and not able to participate in the exchange. Determine what is needed to replicate that for clients who were denied through SOAR.
- Determine how the Nashville Housing Trust Fund will continue to be funded and ensure that, from an advocacy standpoint, we maintain the focus on the greatest needs.
- Document positive outcomes – both quantitative and stories – and package to demonstrate to funders, elected officials, and other stakeholders the value of their investments.
- Explore private philanthropy to support programs.