



Roundtable on Capturing the Savings in Health Care to Pay the Bill for Health *Deborah De Santis*

Name of project or collaborative

CSH - Integrating Housing and Health

Geography

National

Brief description

Founded in 1991, CSH (Corporation for Supportive Housing) transforms how communities use housing solutions to improve the lives of the most vulnerable people. We offer capital, expertise, information, and innovation that allow our partners to use supportive housing (housing coupled with voluntary support services) to achieve stability, strength, and success for the people in most need. CSH blends over 20 years of experience and dedication with a practical and entrepreneurial spirit, making us the source for housing solutions. CSH is an industry leader with national influence and deep connections in a growing number of local communities. We are headquartered in New York City with staff stationed in more than 20 locations around the country.

Our work is centered on practitioner capacity-building, policy and advocacy, supportive housing technical assistance, lending support for housing development, and demonstration pilot initiatives to build evidence.

Relevance of project to this breakout session

CSH strongly believes data and evidence should drive the supportive housing industry. We regularly conduct demonstration projects to test supportive housing's effectiveness for populations beyond those experiencing homelessness. Several of these initiatives have focused on populations with complex health conditions.

Highlights include:

Partnering with Managed Care

As managed care organizations become responsible for increasingly vulnerable members, CSH has delivered consulting services to deliver MCO staff trainings, analyze potential return on investment for implementing supportive housing initiatives, and designing demonstration pilots to test service and housing delivery models.

Social Innovation Fund (SIF)

In 2011, CSH was awarded \$2.3 million over two years by the federal Corporation for National and Community Service through its Social Innovation Fund. CSH is using this award to invest in cutting-edge supportive housing models that provide a cost-effective solution for men and women with complex health needs and facing housing crises. CSH has awarded grants to four entities – Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation (TNDC) from San Francisco, CA; Connecticut AIDS Resource Coalition from Hartford, CT; Economic Roundtable from Los Angeles, CA and Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County from Ann Arbor, MI – to create and implement supportive housing connected to coordinated health services. Each site has brought together a wide range of partners in order to target the highest-cost users of health systems for placement into supportive housing. In addition to the grant, CSH provides technical

assistance and is conducting a rigorous evaluation through a partnership with New York University.

FUHSI

In partnership with The California Endowment and the California Healthcare Foundation, CSH planned and implemented the Frequent Users of Health Services Initiative (FUHSI), a six-year \$10 million pilot initiative that sought to deliver innovative, integrated approaches to meet the health, housing, and social service needs of frequent users of emergency departments and inpatient hospitalization. CSH's role was to support the FUHSI service provider grantees and oversee the Initiative's direction. Nearly half of FUHSI participants were homeless, 65% suffered from a chronic disease, and 30% had mental illness.¹ By providing housing, coordinated health services, transportation, legal advocacy, and case management support, participants experienced greater access to primary and preventive care and reductions in the use of the crisis care. The FUHSI evaluation demonstrated that clients who were connected to permanent housing experienced a 27% drop in inpatient hospitalization versus a 26% increase for those not connected to housing. Similarly, participants in supportive housing experienced a 34% drop in emergency room visits, compared to only a 12% drop among those not in supportive housing.

Taking Health Care Home (THCH)

THCH was a national CSH initiative to establish a housing-based safety net for low-income people with chronic illnesses. CSH provided intensive training, one-on-one TA, grants, and loans to establish SH projects that offered access to comprehensive health services in eight states. A large emphasis of THCH was CSH's engagement of public agencies in each site in order to promote systems change and greater inter-agency coordination for funding supportive housing. Over six years, THCH led to public funding commitments for nearly 8,000 new supportive housing units, more SH for the chronically homeless and increased use of Medicaid and other mainstream funding for supportive housing projects.

Funding

CSH relies on a mix of earned and contributed resources to support our work. Roughly 35% of our income comes from grants and contributions, another 50% from contracts to provide training and advisement. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is one of our strongest philanthropic partners, working with us since our founding in 1991 on numerous national initiatives including Keeping Families Together, Returning Home, and our Supportive Housing Solutions Fund. We seek to create a diverse and sustainable base of funders; our grant and contract revenue comes from a mix of roughly 150 foundations, corporations, and public agencies. Beyond grants and contracts, our remaining revenue includes investment income, income from lending, and gifts from individual donors.

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¹ <http://documents.csh.org/documents/fui/FUHSISummaryReportFINAL.pdf>