

# CHANGEWELLPROJECT

Digital Learning Platform

Program Leaders

## **COURSE DIRECTORY**

[www.changewellproject.com](http://www.changewellproject.com)

**August 2022**

Module 1

**PRIMER ON HOMELESSNESS**

Knowledge

- Understand the scope and causes of homelessness and how the rental market and availability of affordable housing impacts homelessness.
- Understand how discriminatory housing policies laid the foundation for race-based inequities in access to housing.

Skills

- Utilize data sources to understand the scope of homelessness in your community.
- Identify the core principles of Housing First.
- Identify and apply federal definitions related to homelessness.

MODULE COURSES AND DESCRIPTIONS

**OVERVIEW OF HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA**

This course will review the current data on the scale of homelessness in California. How many people experience homelessness in California? Who is experiencing homelessness and why?

**RACISM IN 20TH CENTURY HOUSING POLICY**

This course will explore discriminatory housing policies, often government-led, that created segregated housing that laid the foundation for many race-based inequities.

**HOMELESSNESS IS A HOUSING PROBLEM**

This course will provide historical context to the current housing problem and how housing affordability impacts whole communities. It is the driving force of the homeless crisis.

**WHAT ARE THE SOLUTIONS?**

This course will explore the frameworks that are being implemented and tested in the field by many organizations and people driven to prevent homelessness.

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND THE CURRENT HOUSING CRISIS**

This course provides historical context to the current housing problem and how housing affordability impacts whole communities. It is the driving force of the homeless crisis.

**DEFINING HOMELESSNESS**

This course will explore the various definitions of homelessness used at the federal level and why they matter. We will also take a deeper dive into the definitions of homelessness used by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that are commonly used to determine eligibility for homeless services.

## Module 2

# Homeless System Coordination (Federal, State, and Local)

### Knowledge

- Understand the roles of the federal government and state and local systems in the homelessness response system.
- Understand the relationship between the different systems and how they are organized through local Continuums of Care

### Skills

- Identify how Continuums of Care operate in California and how they are organized at a local level.
- Identify key features of Coordinated Entry Systems and how they play a central role in local homelessness response systems including access to and prioritization for services.
- Describe the specific systems of care that serve populations with different housing needs.

## MODULE COURSES AND DESCRIPTIONS

### HOMELESS SYSTEM COORDINATION: THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ROLE IN SOLVING HOMELESSNESS

This course will review the role of the Federal Government in coordinating the homeless system.

### HOMELESS SYSTEM COORDINATION: THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA ROLE IN SOLVING HOMELESSNESS

This course will review the role of the State of California in coordinating the homeless system.

### LOCAL HOMELESS SYSTEMS COORDINATION COURSES

#### HOUSING AUTHORITY

This course will identify the role of the local housing authority and review permanent housing subsidies for eligible California Department of Social Services program recipients.

#### CONTINUUM OF CARE

This course will introduce Continuum of Care (CoC).

#### COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEM

This course will introduce the Coordinated Entry System (CES).

#### POPULATION SPECIFIC CARE

This course will introduce learners to the population specific systems of care and frames population specific care using a Housing First framework.

## Module 3

# Housing Activities and Services

### Knowledge

- Understand the core services and activities within an effective housing program including case management, housing navigation, and direct financial assistance.

### Skills

- Identify how Housing First principles are incorporated into on-the-ground programs assisting individuals with acquiring or retaining permanent housing.
- Apply the guiding principles of housing case management in practice situations
- Identify concrete methods that systems use to stabilize housing.
- Identify specific housing supports such as direct financial assistance and long-term subsidies and how they can be incorporated into a housing program.

## MODULE COURSES AND DESCRIPTIONS

### HOUSING CASE MANAGEMENT INTRODUCTION AND PRE-ASSESSMENT

This course will provide an introduction to Housing Case Management and a pre-assessment of participant knowledge.

### HOUSING CASE MANAGEMENT DEFINITIONS

This course will explore the definition of Housing Case Management in the context of acquiring and retaining permanent housing.

### HOUSING CASE MANAGEMENT GUIDING PRINCIPLES

This course will review the Guiding Principles of Housing Case Management.

### HOUSING CASE MANAGEMENT CORE FUNCTIONS

This course will provide a review of the core functions of a Housing Case Manager and a description of how these services differ in intensity based on the participant's needs.

### HOUSING STABILIZATION

This course will introduce housing stabilization, a core program component for CDSS contracts. Stabilization is essential to the Housing First model. Housing Case Management is a hands-on practice that supports housing stabilization. Housing stabilization is the why, housing first is the what, and housing case management is the how.

### HOUSING NAVIGATION

This course will teach you what Housing Navigation is, the roles and responsibilities of Housing Navigators, and how Housing Navigation fits into the housing system.

## Module 3

# Housing Activities and Services 'continued'

### Knowledge

- Understand the core services and activities within an effective housing program including case management, housing navigation, and direct financial assistance.

### Skills

- Identify how Housing First principles are incorporated into on-the-ground programs assisting individuals with acquiring or retaining permanent housing.
- Apply the guiding principles of housing case management in practice situations
- Identify concrete methods that systems use to stabilize housing.
- Identify specific housing supports such as direct financial assistance and long-term subsidies and how they can be incorporated into a housing program.

## MODULE COURSES AND DESCRIPTIONS

### DIRECT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

This course will introduce each type of direct financial assistance: rental assistance, security deposit assistance, utility payments, moving cost assistance, Interim housing assistance while housing navigators are actively seeking permanent housing options for the family, costs associated with rental assistance, rental backpay and arrearages, application fees, landlord incentives and more.

### LONG-TERM HOUSING SUPPORTS

This course will introduce long-term permanent housing subsidies for eligible California Department of Social Services program recipients.

### LANDLORD ENGAGEMENT AND UNIT ACQUISITION

This course will provide an overview of Landlord Engagement. The focus is a system-wide landlord engagement strategy to enhance unit acquisition. This course will also review different types of housing that a housing system might use and uses activities to define a realistic housing strategy that you could pitch to landlords. We created this training for people making strategic system-wide decisions about Landlord Engagement strategies.

Module 4

## Systems Components & Program Interventions

### Knowledge

- Understand the role of housing assessments and how their role has evolved in the provision of housing services.
- Understand homelessness prevention strategies and administrative considerations in designing a prevention program.
- Understand the core components of rapid rehousing programs.

### Skills

- Identify how an assessment may be incorporated into housing services programs and be prepared to engage in the current community dialogue related to assessments.
- Design homelessness prevention strategies within specific contexts.
- Apply rapid rehousing strategies within specific contexts.

## MODULE COURSES AND DESCRIPTIONS

### HOUSING FOCUSED ASSESSMENT

This course will introduce assessments in the context of housing services.

### PREVENTION

This course will introduce homelessness prevention.

### HOUSING FOCUSED SHELTER

The course will introduce Housing-Focused Shelters.

### RAPID REHOUSING

This course will review the core components of successful rapid rehousing programs.

### PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

This course will explore what Permanent Supportive Housing is and the Provider and Housing Authority's role in Permanent Supportive Housing.

## Module 5

# Introduction to Effective Practices

### Knowledge

- Understand the guiding principles housing programs—including Housing First, Harm Reduction, and Trauma-Informed Practices. Understand how these principles are translated into specific participant-centered practices in housing case management and program design.

### Skills

- Identify and apply Harm Reduction strategies to practice scenarios
- Define trauma and identify trauma-informed practices to implement in programs

## MODULE COURSES AND DESCRIPTIONS

### HOUSING FIRST AND OVERVIEW OF EFFECTIVE PRACTICES

This course will provide an overview of Housing First, an in-depth review of Housing First, and how Housing First aligns with other practices shown to be effective in housing services.

### HARM REDUCTION INTRODUCTION AND PRE-ASSESSMENT

This course will provide an introduction to Harm Reduction and a pre-assessment of participant knowledge.

### DEFINING HARM REDUCTION

This course will explore the definition of Harm Reduction in the broader sense of reducing risky behaviors of all sorts, not just substance use. The content provides a foundation and dispels some myths to set the stage for discussions of core principles and implementation strategies in the following courses.

### HARM REDUCTION CORE PRINCIPLES

This course will review the Core Principles of Harm Reduction in the context of housing. Harm Reduction is an effective practice for homeless services providers; however, it is not a step-by-step methodology but a way of connecting with people, following a set of guiding principles.

### HARM REDUCTION STRATEGIES

This course will present examples of the policies, programs, and practices that embed the core principles into their design and implementation.

### STAGES OF CHANGE

This course will engage program and system leaders in a presentation to better understand the Stages of Change model.

Module 5

## Introduction to Effective Practices 'continued'

### Knowledge

- Understand the guiding principles housing programs—including Housing First, Harm Reduction, and Trauma-Informed Practices. Understand how these principles are translated into specific participant-centered practices in housing case management and program design.

### Skills

- Identify and apply Harm Reduction strategies to practice scenarios
- Define trauma and identify trauma-informed practices to implement in programs

## MODULE COURSES AND DESCRIPTIONS

### TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES INTRODUCTION AND PRE-ASSESSMENT

This course will provide an introduction to Trauma-Informed Practices and a pre-assessment of participant knowledge.

### DEFINING TRAUMA- INFORMED PRACTICES

This course will engage you in presentations and activities to better understand the approach and strategies of Trauma-Informed Practices.

### TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES GUIDING PRINCIPLES

This course will engage you in presentations and activities to better understand the core guiding principles that help transform our organizations and systems of care to establish a trauma-informed culture.

### IMPLEMENTING TRAUMA- INFORMED PRACTICES

This course will engage you in presentations and activities to better understand how to implement trauma-informed practices into their policies, programs, and practices.



## Module 6

# CDSS Programs

### Knowledge

- Understand the essential elements of each CDSS Housing & Homelessness Department program, including:
  - Bringing Families Home
  - CalWORKs Housing Support Program
  - Home Safe
  - Housing & Disability Advocacy Program

### Skills

- Identify the core components of each CDSS-funded housing program and recent changes made in each program
- Identify eligibility requirements for each program and linkages to county programs

## MODULE COURSES AND DESCRIPTIONS

### BRINGING FAMILIES HOME PROGRAM OVERVIEW

This course will review all the essential elements that make up the Bringing Families Home Program, including the history of BFH, eligibility, required program components and the recent changes to BFH in FY 21/22.

### CAL WORKS HSP OVERVIEW

This course will review all the essential elements that make up the Cal Works Housing Support Program, including the history of HSP, eligibility, required program components, and the recent changes to Cal Works HSP in FY 21/22.

### HOME SAFE PROGRAM OVERVIEW

This course will provide an overview of the CDSS Home Safe Program, key program components, eligibility, program trends, administrative considerations, and the recent changes to Home Safe in FY 21/22.

### HDAP PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND BENEFITS ADVOCACY: A CRITICAL COMPONENT

This course will review all the essential elements that make up the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program, including the funding history of HDAP, eligibility, required program components, and the recent changes made to HDAP in FY 21/22. You will also learn why the Benefits Advocacy component of HDAP Programs exists and how it is a critical service bridging a gap in services in our communities.

# CHANGEWELLPROJECT

PARTNERING TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY SYSTEMS

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