Coordinated Assessment and Placement System (CAPS)

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What We Do

CSH is a touchstone for new ideas and best practices, a collaborative and pragmatic community partner, and an influential advocate for supportive housing.

Lines of Business

- Training & Education
  - Research-backed tools, trainings and knowledge sharing

- Policy Reform
  - Systems reform, policy collaboration and advocacy

- Consulting & Assistance
  - Custom community planning and cutting-edge innovations

- Lending
  - Powerful capital funds, specialty loan products and development expertise
NYC CAPS Steering Committee Members

- Breaking Ground
- CSH*
- CUCS
- Deputy Mayor’s Office of Health and Human Services
- DSS/HRA/DHS
- Enterprise*
- HELP USA
- HPD

- Homeless Services United (HSU)
- NYC DVS*
- NYC CoC
- Robin Hood Foundation
- Supportive Housing Network of New York
- SuS
- Plus additional support from HUD and Abt Associates

*Steering Committee Co-Chairs
Why do we need CAPS?

Reason 1:
Currently it takes months to house someone who is homeless while apartments stay vacant
Reason 2: The Federal Government is Requiring It

HUD’s requirements for a Centralized or Coordinated Assessment System in CoC Program Interim Rule (24 CFR 578.7(a)(8)):

"In consultation with recipients of Emergency Solutions Grants program funds within the geographic area, establish and operate either a centralized or coordinated assessment system that provides an initial, comprehensive assessment of the needs of individuals and families for housing and services. The Continuum must develop a specific policy to guide the operation of the centralized or coordinated assessment system on how its system will address the needs of individuals and families who are fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, but who are seeking shelter or services from nonvictim service providers. This system must comply with any requirements established by HUD by Notice.”
SOLVING THE HOMELESS CRISIS IN NYC

WITHOUT CAPS

1. Households are directed to multiple agencies and resources for housing
2. Each agency has a different application process
3. There is no common tool to assess households’ needs

WITH CAPS

COORDINATED ASSESSMENT PLACEMENT SYSTEM

1. The right household is matched to the right resource
2. Matches happen quickly and efficiently
3. Gaps and needs in resources can be identified and filled

CURRENT SYSTEM’S CHALLENGES

COMPONENTS OF CAPS

1. A universal assessment tool to accurately determine the needs of all homeless households
2. A complete inventory of all housing and service opportunities
3. A matching tool to ensure that needs and resources are appropriately—and quickly—matched and see where resources are lacking

ABOUT THE CAPS STEERING COMMITTEE

Enterprise is working closely in collaboration with a strong group of public-private partners to develop a scope and strategy for how CAPS can become a reality for NYC. The group, which is called the NYC CAPS Steering Committee, includes representation from a diverse group of partners from government, provider and policy organizations.

What will CAPS do?

List starting with most vulnerable person that is prioritized

Vacant SH unit ‘goes’ to system to find first eligible person for that unit on list
The Most Vulnerable of the Vulnerable

70,000+ homeless people

X,000 people in need of SH

xx hundred on the waitlist at any given time
What has been done to date?

**Assessment**
- Determine Housing Path
- Progress: Pilot with 6 sites underway

**Vulnerability**
- Measure vulnerability
- Starting with SH

**Prioritization**
- Order of Placement
- Federal guidelines; local priorities

**Matching**
- Finding the right unit
- Eligibility
- Client choice

**Placement**
- Finding a home
What to Keep in Mind

We don’t have all the answers.

This is an iterative process.

What we are developing is a living set of factors—ongoing evaluation and adjustments built in.

We are here to make sure our system work better – ensure that scarce resources are being targeted to the people who need them the most and streamline the application/referral processes so that vulnerable homeless New Yorkers are connected to appropriate housing as quickly as possible.
Opportunity to Engage Multi-Systems Users

Communities spend billions of dollars on services that bounce vulnerable people between crisis services. CSH's *FUSE model* helps break that cycle while increasing housing stability and reducing multiple crisis service use.

**Data-Driven Problem-Solving**
- Cross systems data match
- Track Implementation
- Measure outcomes, impact and cost effectiveness

**Policy and Systems Reform**
- Convene multi-sector working group
- Troubleshoot housing placement and retention barriers
- Enlist policymakers to bring FUSE to scale

**Targeted Housing and Services**
- Create supportive housing, develop recruitment process
- Recruit and place clients into housing, stabilize with services
- Expand model and house additional clients

[csh.org/fuse](http://csh.org/fuse)
Frequent Users of Systems Engagement (FUSE)

More than 30 communities have implemented supportive housing for frequent users using the FUSE planning approach.
FUSE Evaluations Show Success: Positive ROI

NYC FUSE
- 40% reduction jail days
- 91% fewer shelter days
- 50% reduction in psych. inpt.
- 86% housed after 2 years

San Diego Project 25
- 67% reduction in total public costs after 2 years
- 60-80% reduction in ambulance, ER, hospitalizations, arrests, jail days
- Net savings of over 200% after paying for housing+services

MeckFUSE (Charlotte)
- 50% fewer arrests
- 87% fewer shelter days
- 24% less ambulance service charges
- 43% less hospital charges
THANK YOU!

stay connected

csh.org