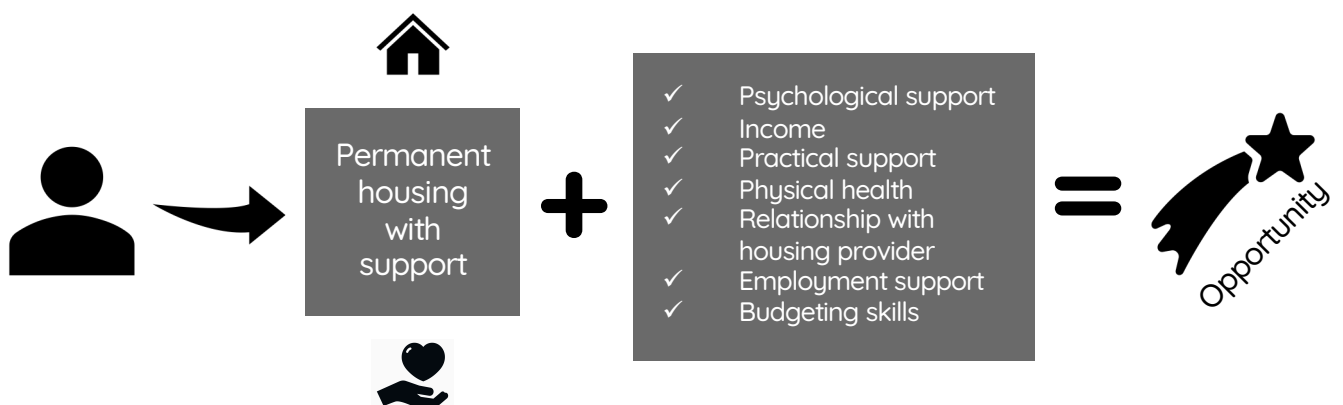


What is Housing First?

Housing First is an evidence based approach under the umbrella of housing led policy.

This model has a strong focus on self determination and consumer choice and ensures that; in the first response person experiencing any form of homelessness accesses permanent housing without any housing readiness requirements.

Housing first uses a pre treatment approach, focusing on the prevention of a person losing their current housing. People should be given the choice to be housed ASAP in permanent housing with support to be able to then overcome health, mental health & alcohol and other drug issues.

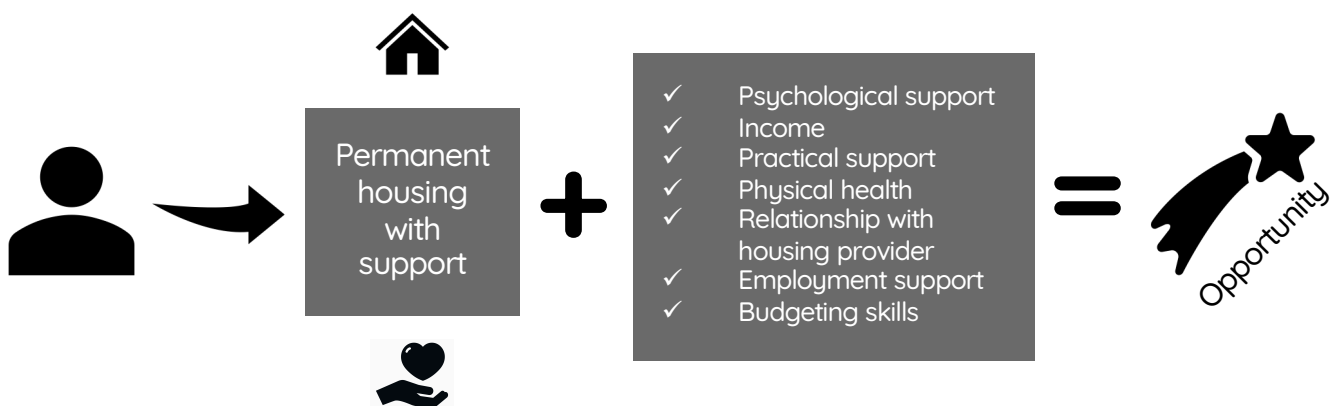


Who is Housing First for?

We know from evidence that Housing First is a cost-effective approach for people with the most complex needs, and supports this cohort to achieve better outcomes than other services.

Housing First residents typically experience multiple disadvantages relating to:

Housing
Physical and mental health
Contact with the criminal justice system
Education and employment
Social integration



Pathways Housing First

1 Housing

2 Choice

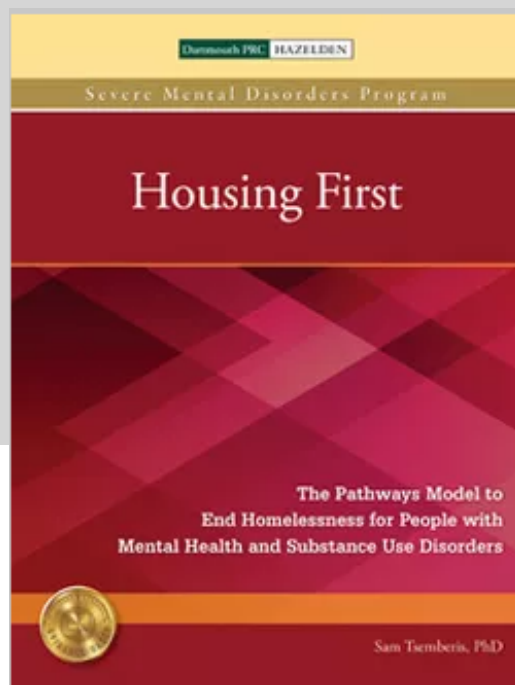
3 Recover

4 Support

5 Community



Sam Tsemberis



Housing First Philosophy



1 Independent Living

The person who is homeless can go straight into housing with out any readiness criteria or temporary accommodation



2 Respect for Choice

Autonomy of person is respected aiming to strengthen participation



3 Rehabilitation and Empowerment

Person is treated as an equal, trust is built and the client is empowered to make decisions on their own terms



4 Integration with a Person's Community

Developing new relationships and fostering existing ones

"This requires adopting the Housing First principle, where a person does not have to first change their life around in order to earn the basic right to housing. Instead, housing is the prerequisite that allows other problems to be solved."

Juha Kaakinen, CEO, Y-Foundation



Is Your Agency Housing First Ready?

- ✓ Do your services respond to the needs and vulnerabilities of particular populations including women, LGBTIQ people, Aboriginal people, and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds?
- ✓ Are you ready for a harm reduction approach?
- ✓ Could you ensure people have individualised, recovery-oriented, and client-driven supports?
- ✓ Could you offer affordable accessible options to people experiencing chronic homelessness with support services?
- ✓ Could you provide immediate access to permanent housing with no housing readiness requirements?
- ✓ Could you offer clients true consumer choice and self-determination?



System Changes Required to Achieve Housing First in WA

- A collaborative approach to procurement policy to enable the system to change to a housing led approach including a housing first approach for chronic rough sleepers
- An agreed **timeline for the system to shift** from staircase/readiness model-based service delivery to housing led with housing first
- **Resourcing the system to transition** to a new way of working including assessing the cost of renovating existing transitional accommodation to long term accommodation, as per the Y-Saatio approach in Finland
- **Assessing the ability** of parts of the sector to transition in the short term, even on the smallest level
- Exploring the current **workforce capability to transition** to new ways of working, and develop a schedule to build capacity
- Challenge the methodology and language in how we equip our graduates



