American Institutes for Research / National Center on Family Homelessness

Transitional Housing for Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence: A 2014-15 Snapshot

Project Methodology / Approach



Transitional Housing for Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence:

A 2014–15 Snapshot

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What's on the Project Webpage?

The project webpage is <u>www.air.org/THforSurvivors</u>. The webpage contains links to

- The 12 chapters of the *Report*, each with an executive summary and a reference list;
- The Methodology webinar and four Overview webinars;
- Four brief podcast interviews highlighting the approaches of some of the providers we interviewed; and
- Broadsides highlighting two of the many important topic areas this report addresses.



Chapters of the Report (Overview Webinar #1)

- #01 Definition of "Success" & Performance Measurement
- #02 Survivor Access and Participant Selection
- #03 Program Housing Models
- #04 Taking a Survivor-Centered / Empowerment Approach: Rules Reduction, Voluntary Services, Participant Engagement



Chapters of the Report (Overview Webinar #2)

- #05 Program Staffing
- #06 Length of Stay
- #07 Subpopulations and Cultural / Linguistic Competence
- #08 OVW Constituencies (Domestic Violence Dating Violence -Sexual Assault - Stalking +Trafficking)



Chapters of the Report (Overview Webinars #3 & 4)

- #09 Approach to Services: Basic Support and Assistance
- #10 Challenges and Approaches to Obtaining Housing and Financial Sustainability
- #11 Trauma-Specific and Trauma-Informed Services for Survivors and Their Children
- #12 Funding and Collaboration: Opportunities and Challenges



Overall Project Approach

Diversity of the clientele

and their circumstances: age, class, race, cultural and linguistic background, religious affiliation, gender identity, sexual orientation, military status, disability status, life experience



Different needs, priorities, goals, definitions of "success"

Distinct locationspecific factors:

housing market, economic climate, job market, urban / rural, transportation, survivor access to benefits and services, role of law enforcement and judiciary, overall community climate / attitudes / acceptance

Diversity of providers

(e.g., small, stand-alone shelter/TH vs. full-service, well-resourced agency) and service environments, ranging from under-resourced regions where there is little access to complementary services, to richly resourced regions, where providers can leverage a wide variety of gap-filling services

No one-size-fits-all "best practices" template for providing transitional housing for survivors



Overall Project Approach (cont.)

Survivors have different backgrounds, circumstances, needs, priorities, definitions of success + Diverse mix of OVW-funded providers in distinct operating environments

No consistent measurement of success + No framework for measuring differences in clienteles or operating environments



No data-informed basis for assessing whether a particular intervention is a "best practice"

Descriptive approach framing and providing context for:

- (a) the challenges and choices providers face;
- (b) the approaches providers take; and
- (c) the unresolved issues and difficult questions with which providers wrestle.



Getting Started /Initial Interviews

- Review of the literature
- Draft of interview questions
- Discussions and "dry runs" with Project Advisory Team
- Revisions to interview questions
- Development of Interview Protocol
- "Field test" with nine TH programs identified by OVW
- Revisions to interview Protocol
- 50+ interviews, with periodic updates to the Protocol



Mid-Course Analysis

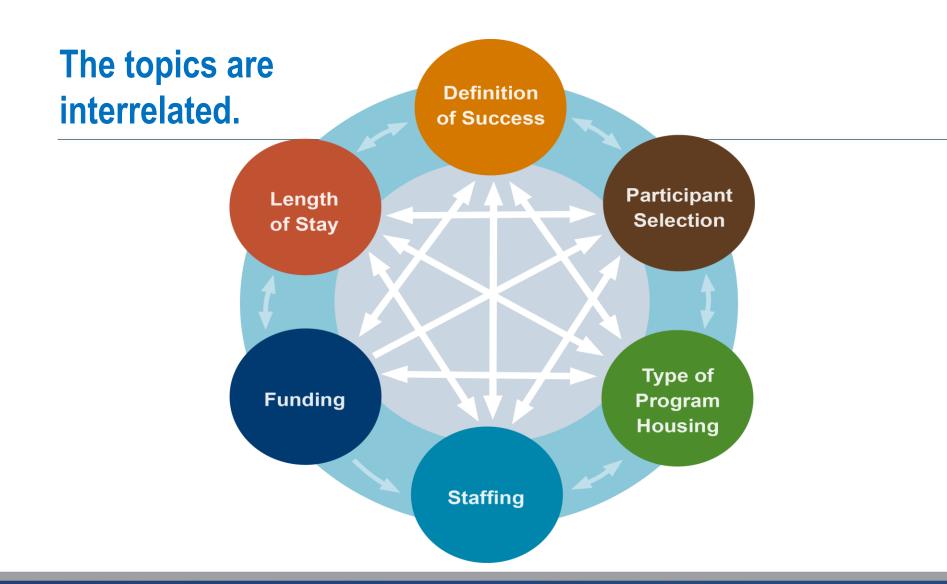
- Input de-identified interview transcripts into NVivo Software
- Code provider answers according to topic area discussed
- Compile interview excerpts addressing specific topic areas
- Send topic-specific sets of de-identified provider comments to Project Advisory Team
- 13 Topic-specific discussions with Project Advisory Team (a) what are providers telling us? (b) what questions do provider comments raise? (c) what additional information is needed? (d) which questions can we stop asking? etc.
- Ongoing literature review



Finishing Data Collection / Integration

- Periodic revisions to Protocol and to the Coding Protocol
- Another 70 TH provider interviews + two "special" interviews
- Finish coding and de-identifying all interview transcripts
- Compile interview excerpts addressing specific topic areas
- Consolidate provider comments: (a) include all possible comments; (b) edit for clarity and brevity, preserve content; and (c) keep comments in chronologic order, avoiding bias
- Consolidate / reorganize taxonomy of topics for clarity
- Continue literature review







Thank You!

For more information visit: www.air.org/THforSurvivors

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