

# COLLABORATION TO PREVENT AND ADDRESS OLDER ADULT HOMELESSNESS

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OLDER ADULT COUNCIL OF CALGARY (OACC)



# Older Adult Council of Calgary

## Helping Calgary Seniors Age Well



Coordinate action between public, private & not-for-profit seniors' agencies



Help agencies understand gaps in service & advocate or plan to address them



Influence policy affecting seniors



Articulate shared positions on issues that affect vulnerable older adults



Engage businesses, agencies & individuals to provide input into research & policy



Produce & commission research



# HISTORY OF COLLABORATION AND RESEARCH

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2012:  
OASPoC  
community  
gathering and  
consultation

2014:  
Effective  
practices on  
collaboration  
between  
affordable  
seniors' housing  
providers and  
mental health  
service  
providers

2014:  
OASPoC  
Community  
Forum and  
report

2015:  
Creation of  
OACC Mental  
Health and  
Housing  
Subcommittee

2016:  
Government  
relations

2017:  
OACC position  
papers

# POSITION PAPER RECOMMENDATIONS

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## Older Adults:

- Pensions and income support
- Subpopulations at risk for poverty
- Affordability of services

## Older Adults and Mental Health:

- Outreach and health services
- Education and training
- Preventing homelessness
- Integrated care

# EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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- Mental Health and Education Subcommittee



# EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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## Events:

- Seniors Mental Health and Housing Resource Networking Event, September 2017
- Mental Health First Aid for Seniors, May 2018
- Next Steps:
  - Complex cases and system support, October 2018
  - 2 events per year to develop a community of practice and support

# HOUSING FIRST

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A model of addressing homelessness



*Housing First is a recovery-oriented approach to homelessness that involves moving people who experience homelessness into independent and permanent housing as quickly as possible, with no preconditions, and then providing them with additional services and supports as needed.*

Gaetz et al 2013

# PETER COYLE PLACE - APPROACH

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- Housing First, congregate living, 70 units
- Opened in June 2005
- Harm reduction philosophy of care
- Mental Health Support
- Compassionate staff
- Residents consider Peter Coyle Place as their permanent home
- 20 dormitory style beds in small 3-5 person dorms
- 50 individual units



# PETER COYLE PLACE - COLLABORATION

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## Partnerships:

- Alberta Health Services
- Homecare
- The Alex
- Assertiveness Community Treatment program (ACT)

# PETER COYLE PLACE - OUTCOMES

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	<b>Prior to Admission to PCP (1 year)</b>	<b>While living at PCP (9 months)</b>
Aggregate days in hospital	864 days	84 days
Average length of stay	124 days	7 days or less

No significant reduction in EMS usage, possibly due to overall frailty (similar to other studies)

(Hoffart I. and K. Cairns 2016 p.32)

# NEXT STEPS

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- Knowledge mobilization
- Addressing recommendations of position papers
  - Research, advocacy, and action
- Expanding partner network and maintaining collaborative approach

# QUESTIONS?

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