



7 cities

on housing
and homelessness

Awards Reception

HOUSING FIRST
PRACTITIONERS
WORKSHOP & AWARDS
May 29-30, 2014

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Leader of the Pack

A person who possesses strong leadership qualities to influence and lead change in the community that they serve.

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Calgary – Amanda St. Laurent

“Amanda has lead the community development project beyond expectations. Amanda is creating a model to be replicated throughout Alberta.”

Edmonton - Janice Shirt

“Janice Shirt has taken on leadership of an Aboriginal housing (Nikihk) team in Edmonton. Under her leadership a program was created that included supports for trauma impacted clients as well as a life skills course for all clients of the program. The Nikihk Aboriginal Housing program is unique, and as a manager, Janice has taken on this roll with both grace and compassion.”

Grand Prairie -Carrie Bartch

“Carrie is a team leader and has managed to retain and sustain her team under her supervision as team lead the longest. She has gone over and above with community capacity building by building relationships with businesses to support clients. This has resulted in school supplies for children, move in starter hamper and adopt a family program for Christmas, which has been great for the community.”

Lethbridge- Ashlynnne Vanbuuren

"Ashlynnne possesses excellent leadership skills and has successfully lead her team to work with some extremely complex individuals."

Medicine Hat -Carrie Menzies

“Carrie always leads by example with a focus on clients, to build their capacity, and she inspires us to do the same.”

Red Deer - Stacey Carmichael

“Stacey has not only worked as a housing provider, advocate and coordinator in the community of Red Deer to provide services, but also on the 10 year plans to end homelessness. She is an advocate for guests, front line staff and systems that need to change!”

Wood Buffalo - Arianna Johnson

"As an Executive Director and a strong community leader, Johnson Arianna empowers her staff and other people she interacts with on a daily bases. Arianna and her team have stepped up and assisted Housing First clients, the homeless and near homeless clients accessing the food bank. She goes the extra mile to work with the agencies and accommodate them, as well as the clients served."

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The Houser Award

“This individual is an all-rounded achiever who constantly houses individuals at a high rate and/or are able to sustain clients' housing. They never fail to blow you away with their quality of work.”

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Calgary - Shanon Kerfoot

“Shanon has amazing abilities to find housing in a market that appears to be impossible with the shortage. She manages to housing women with amazing consistency. Shanon has developed strong relationships with landlords and has a gentle approach with clients. Shannon is driven and passionate and an absolute asset to the Community Housing Program.”

Edmonton - Dominique Laundry

“Dominique has years of experience housing clients and currently holds the record for most people housed within a month! She has housed 17 people in one month!
She's amazing!

She has been a mass housing worker for some time and is able to develop long lasting professional relationships with several landlords. Dom demonstrates energy and passion for housing first.

Dominique is the best HOW in Edmonton! High in passion and numbers!”

Grande Prairie - Shauna Bradshaw

“Shauna works extremely hard to find the right housing for each person or family that she works with. She finds out what is truly important to a person and how best to support them. She not only talks the talk in this, but walks the walk. Even in the most difficult of situations Shauna remains professional, sets strong boundaries but is always compassionate and kind. Shauna helps people find housing and does everything she can to help them keep it. She not only does this for her own case load but assists her co-workers in whatever she can. It is obvious to anyone who works with Shauna that her heart is caring and compassionate, and she will fight for those who need it. She is an amazing case manager, and several people she has supported have written letters or stopped by to inform on how their lives have changed because of Shauna.”

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Lethbridge - Jason Czarny

“ Jason works with youth, and maintains a high rate of housed clients. His clients are not easy to house due to their complexity and their age. He is client focused and has a very centered attitude.”

Medicine Hat - Karlena Siwy & Andrew Lux

"The Rapid Rehousing Team consistently house individuals and listen to their needs to create an environment of ultimate trust. They treat people with respect and never treat them like numbers or the bottom line. They work overtime and extra hours with no extra incentive, and are genuinely happy when they are able to celebrate the success of the individuals that they serve.

Andrew works hard to get people a home quickly.

Karlena is an outstanding worker, is amazing at housing, and works to build client capacity to maintain housing."

Red Deer - Kathy Cave

“Kathy is managing a multi-agency multi-disciplinary team, and she constantly rises to the occasion.”

Wood Buffalo - Jennifer Rideout

“Jennifer and her team have developed ways to house individuals in a boom town economy and stay within their budget. She is cost effective, yet has a caring approach to housing individuals in our high economy.

The team at the Center of Hope has managed to come up with innovate ways to engage landlords and get landlord buy-in to support housing first in a boom town city. The creative ways they have housed and continue to house people on a daily basis with 100% support from the landlord who is willing to learn about housing first and assist with promoting a new way of life.”

The Smooth Operator

Those that bring people together by fostering positive relationships. They have the trust of many and work with others to garner support, bringing new relationships to the table.

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Calgary - Encampment Team

“Great The Encampment Team work at building rapport with rough sleepers and convincing them into housing.”

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Edmonton - Juli White

“Juli is dynamic and connects people from all sectors with enthusiasm, efficiency, and integrity.”

Grande Praire - Terris Glab

"Terris started his position as a landlord relations specialist in Grande Praire this past year. Since he started Terris has made a dynamic change in the community. He has worked diligently to bring people together to foster positive relationships and has helped to salvage several that were not so good. He has a positive nature and work ethic that inspires others. Terris has been instrumental in bringing new relationships to the table and especially landlords. Terris is always there to lend a hand when a case manager is in need of assistance. Terris has spoken at several Housing First gatherings with professionalism and has been engaging. He has fostered so many positive relationships with community member since he has started that it has made everyone else's jobs much easier."

Lethbridge - Erica Dolsen

“Erica has an amazing ability to develop relationships and build support networks for the clients that she serves. She is a very kind, caring, approachable and nonjudgmental individual whose personality is contagious to those in her presence.”

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Medicine Hat - Michelle Sanderson

“Michelle is well connected with various agencies and has the ability to bring them all together to serve our clients.”

Red Deer - Simone Morrison

“Simone is an outstanding team member and a true advocate for her clients. A real go-getter!”

Brittany Davis, Wood Buffalo

“She has fostered good relationships with other agencies and has taken the initiative in a number of ways such as bringing agency leads together to organize MAT Shelter visits. She also has taken the initiative to implement life skills programs in-house with the hope to create a Housing First Life skills Program that all may use.

Brittany and the team at the Salvation Army have collaborated with the AHS team to provide housing first.”

The Go-Getter Award

For being enthusiastic,
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succeed in housing those who are
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Brittany Davis, Wood Buffalo

“Brittany is a keener because she is always looking for ways to grow the program and advance the clients. Beside developing a Life skills program, she believes that the supervisor should work in tandem with her staff-communication is very important to her as are her required reports and her file audits.

Even through difficult situations, she makes sound decisions for the good of all involved. She is a true leader, enterprising, focused, team player and versatile.”

The Data Diva or Dude Award

For exceptional and quality data reporting across the province of Alberta

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Jillian Dowding, Calgary

The data collection/quality and reporting at the Alex is testament to the excellent processes Jillian has developed with The Alex Case Managers. In addition to creating standard procedures for data collection and monthly reporting at The Alex, Jillian is also responsible for the data analysis for program monitoring and evaluation. The annual reports provided by The Alex are of a very high quality and demonstrate an excellent understanding of how data can be used to report critical information about the characteristics and service needs of the clients The Alex serves.

The Enabler Award

For diligently supporting the work of the Housing First program and practitioners

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Angie's Best Choice Property Management, Medicine Hat

"This property management has been an asset to housing individuals in our community."

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Special Presentation

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CITY OF
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Medicine Hat
Community
Housing Society

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