



February 2025 Newsletter

Explore new training and resources from HHRC and our partners!

Upcoming Webinar

JOIN SAMHSA'S HOMELESS AND HOUSING RESOURCE CENTER WEBINAR



REGISTER TODAY:

Understanding Contingency Management:

A Foundational Webinar for Homeless Service Providers

MARCH 11, 2:00PM-3:30PM ET

Understanding Contingency Management: A Foundational Webinar for Homeless Service Providers

March 11, 2:00-3:30pm Eastern Time (11:00am-12:30pm PT)

Contingency management (CM) is a psychosocial therapy that uses rewards to incentivize people to reach their substance use goals. Decades of research have shown that CM programs help people decrease and stop stimulant drug use. This webinar will provide attendees with a foundational understanding of CM and how it works to support individuals with substance use or co-occurring disorders.

Attendees will hear from programs about how they use the model—what has worked, what has been challenging, and how to develop new programs. They can submit questions and hear from presenters and program participants about their own experiences.

This webinar will be recorded, and live Spanish, ASL, and live interpretation will be provided. Certificates of participation will be provided to those who complete a post-event evaluation, but no CEUs are included in this event.

[Register for the Webinar](#)

New Releases!

Identifying and Supporting Behavioral Health Needs in Encampments: Tips for Nonclinical Staff

This new guide provides tips for nonclinical staff when engaging with individuals living in encampment settings to support their behavioral health needs.

Topics include:

- How to Engage People Living in Encampments (or anywhere!)
- Behavioral Health Needs in Encampments
- Tips for Safety
- Helpful Tips for Outreach Teams



Identifying and Supporting Behavioral Health Needs in Encampments: Tips for Nonclinical Staff

FEBRUARY 2025

Introduction: Encampments are temporary structures or enclosed areas where people seek shelter but are not intended for long-term continuous occupancy. They may look like groupings of people sleeping outside with minimal cover, tents, or even sanctioned sites with temporary structures. Encampments develop in communities where there are not enough adequate housing options or where available options do not meet the communities' housing needs.

Encampments provide people with a sense of community and belonging because they often feel that the larger community isolates and shuns them. They can offer safety, security, and a feeling that others are looking out for them. Encampments can also give people a sense of autonomy that contrasts with the strict rules found in many shelter spaces, such as curfews or not being allowed to enter with a partner or a pet. Encampments also provide opportunities for individuals to engage with service providers who do outreach, and they are often in locations that provide easier access to necessary resources.

However, encampments do not typically offer access to clean water and bathrooms, nor do they offer adequate protection against extreme weather. People cannot safeguard their belongings and must often choose between protecting their personal belongings and accessing services such as food and health care. Community members and businesses may oppose the presence of encampments. This opposition can set up community conflicts as well as encounters with law enforcement and sweeps, or the forced displacement of people from a particular location, often coupled with the destruction of their shelters and removal of their belongings.



HOMELESS AND HOUSING RESOURCE CENTER

Identifying and Supporting Behavioral Health Needs in Encampments: 1

[Download the Fact Sheet](#)

We're excited to share a new type of resource from HHRC!

These short videos provide tangible tips for supporting people who use methamphetamine as they transition to housing and for providing low-barrier access to shelter while ensuring safety and well-being.

5 Ways to Support Someone Who Uses Methamphetamine During the Transition to Housing



5 Ways to Lower Barriers to Shelter

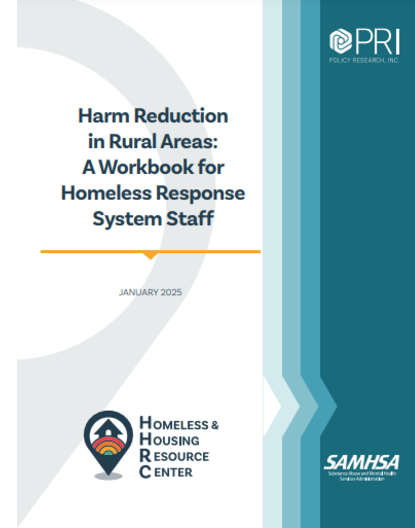


In Case You Missed It

Harm Reduction in Rural Areas: A Workbook for Homeless Response System Staff

The Harm Reduction in Rural Areas workbook focuses on the practical implementation of harm reduction and Housing First principles to encourage readers to consider how to best adopt these

evidence-based strategies in their communities. The workbook provides an overview of evidence-based practices, implementation strategies, reflection questions, and links to more information.



[View the Workbook](#)

Partner Resources

SAMHSA: National Behavioral Health Crisis Care Guidance

This [guidance](#) provides a framework for transforming behavioral health crisis care systems in communities throughout the United States with the goal of saving lives by helping anyone experiencing a behavioral health crisis anytime, anywhere. It also includes a draft of a detailed implementation guide for Mobile Crisis Team services in accordance with this newly released framework.

SAMHSA: Community Opioid Overdose Reversal Medications (OORMs) Planning Toolkit

This [resource](#) is designed to help communities expand access to lifesaving medications like naloxone to reduce overdose fatalities. The toolkit provides actionable guidance for community leaders, public health professionals, and other partners to create effective overdose prevention and response strategies to improve local overdose reduction outcomes.

NLIHC: Strategies, Tactics, and Best Practices for Disaster-Impacted Communities

This [toolkit](#) includes best practices for community-based, state, and national organizations to use media, the law, organizing, and research to reform the country's disaster response framework. It also includes direct examples of how these strategies have been used by Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition member organizations in impacted communities before and after disasters.

NAEH: Alliance CEO Ann Oliva on National Housing Conference Podcast

Alliance CEO, Ann Oliva, recently appeared on the [Beyond Four Walls: Conversations on Affordable Housing](#) podcast, hosted by the National Housing Conference. She

discusses challenges, opportunities, and real solutions to drive change on homelessness throughout the nation.

Partner Events

- [Webinar](#): Updates on Executive Actions, Equal Access Rule, and More. **February 11, 2:00pm ET**. Joint Webinar: NLIHC, NAEH, CBPP
- [Webinar](#): Interim Strategies For Responding To Unsheltered Homelessness. **February 11, 3:00pm ET**. National Alliance to End Homelessness
- [Webinar](#): Understanding New SSA Policies and Online Services: What SOAR Providers Need to Know in 2025. **March 6, 3:00pm ET**. SAMHSA SOAR TA Center
- [Conference](#): NLIHC Housing Policy Forum. **March 24-27, Washington, D.C.** National Low Income Housing Coalition
- [Conference](#): NatCon2025. **May 5-7, Philadelphia, PA**. National Council for Mental Wellbeing
- [Conference](#): National Health Care for the Homeless Conference and Policy Symposium. **May 12-15, Baltimore, MD**. National Health Care for the Homeless Council
- [Conference](#): NCHV Annual Conference. **May 27-30, Washington, D.C.** National Coalition for Homeless Veterans

Please direct questions or concerns about HHRC training events

to: info@hhrctraining.org



The Homeless and Housing Resource Center is a program developed under a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by SAMHSA/HHS, or the U.S. Government

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