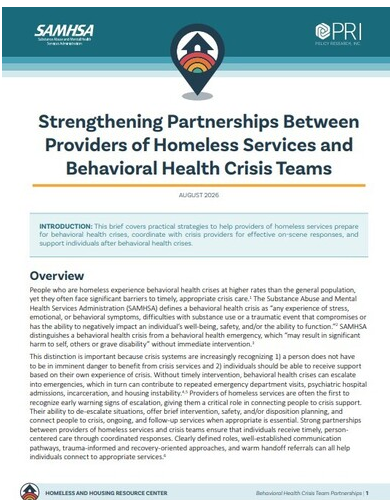




August 2026 Newsletter

Explore new training and resources from HHRC and our partners!

New Resources



Strengthening Partnerships Between Providers of Homeless Services and Behavioral Health Crisis Teams

AUGUST 2026

INTRODUCTION: This brief covers practical strategies to help providers of homeless services prepare for behavioral health crises, coordinate with crisis providers for effective on-scene responses, and support individuals after behavioral health crises.

Overview

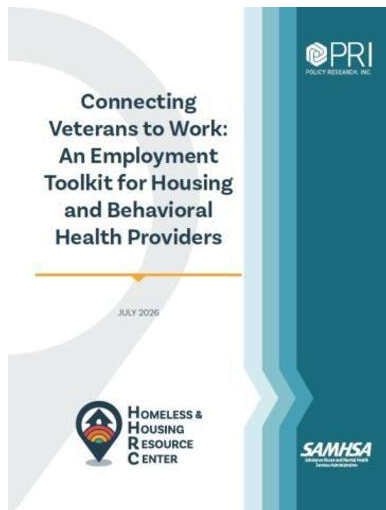
People who are homeless experience behavioral health crises at higher rates than the general population, yet they often face significant barriers to timely, appropriate crisis care. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) defines a behavioral health crisis as "any experience of stress, emotional, or behavioral symptoms, difficulties with substance use or a traumatic event that compromises or has the ability to negatively impact an individual's well-being, safety, and/or the ability to function." SAMHSA distinguishes a behavioral health crisis from a behavioral health emergency, which "may result in significant harm to self, others or grave disability" without immediate intervention.¹

This distinction is important because crisis systems are increasingly recognizing (1) a person does not have to be in imminent danger to benefit from crisis services and (2) individuals should be able to receive support based on their own experience of crisis. Without timely intervention, behavioral health crises can escalate into emergencies, which in turn can contribute to repeated emergency department visits, psychiatric hospital admissions, incarceration, and housing instability.^{2,3} Providers of homeless services are often the first to recognize early warning signs of escalation, giving them a critical role in connecting people to crisis support. Their ability to de-escalate situations, offer brief intervention, safety, and/or disposition planning, and connect people to crisis, ongoing, and follow-up services when appropriate is essential. Strong partnerships between providers of homeless services and crisis teams ensure that individuals receive timely, person-centered care through coordinated responses. Clearly defined roles, well-established communication pathways, trauma-informed and recovery-oriented approaches, and warm handoff referrals can all help individuals connect to appropriate services.⁴



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Behavioral Health Crisis Team Partnerships | 1



Connecting Veterans to Work: An Employment Toolkit for Housing and Behavioral Health Providers

JULY 2026



HOMELESS & HOUSING RESOURCE CENTER



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SAMHSA
SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION



Shared Housing for People with Mental Illness: Choice, Stability, and Support

AUGUST 2026

INTRODUCTION: Shared housing is recognized as a best practice for ending homelessness in unaffordable housing markets. It also offers unique advantages as a housing intervention for people with mental illness (MI), helping them quickly achieve stability and develop opportunities for long-term recovery and personal growth.

A Simple Approach to Shared Housing

Shared housing is defined by the Shared Housing Institute as "seven (or more) people live together and share common space in temporary or permanent housing."¹ In the context of providing housing solutions for homeless people with MI, shared housing is a model in which two or more individuals from different households choose to live together in a unit with both common and private areas. Shared housing programs participants choose the individual with whom they live, participate in care management, and have separate leases in their names. Care managers coordinate matching and support while keeping each participant's health information confidential, so a roommate is never given clinical details about the person they live with. They pursue three pathways to housing stability with the support of community resources and, often, a supportive living environment.

"If they are active in their recovery, they have their toolbox to address and meet the moment. . . . We've had people struggle and relapse, and then their roommates are the ones that circle around them and support them and help them get to treatment." —Shared housing provider



HOMELESS AND HOUSING RESOURCE CENTER

Shared Housing for People with MI | 1

Strengthening Partnerships Between Providers of Homeless Services and Behavioral Health Crisis Teams

This [brief](#) provides practical strategies to help providers of homeless services prepare for behavioral health crises, coordinate with crisis providers for effective on-scene responses, and support individuals after behavioral health crises.

Connecting Veterans to Work: An Employment Toolkit for Housing and Behavioral Health Providers

This [toolkit](#) provides behavioral health and housing professionals with information and strategies for helping a Veteran navigate the employment landscape and access appropriate resources.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

Shared Housing for People with Mental Illness: Choice, Stability, and Support

This [brief](#) defines shared housing and provides strategies for successful implementation.

Access New Resources



Engaging Faith-Based and Civic Partners in Homeless Response Systems

This [guide](#) was developed by the Homeless and Housing Resource Center to strengthen the support for individuals and families who are homeless and have serious mental illness (SMI), substance use disorders (SUDs), or co-occurring disorders (CODs) by engaging faith-based and civic organizations in homeless response systems.

Understanding Master Leasing for People with Serious Mental Illness

This [workbook](#) defines and describes master leasing as a strategy for programs to support housing stability for people with serious mental illness. It outlines core program components and the types of housing models that are conducive to master leasing strategies. The workbook discusses the benefits, challenges, and strategies for success, and concludes with tips for people exiting the program and additional resources.

Homeless Response System Integration of Recovery Housing and Recovery Frameworks

This [resource](#) is designed to support homeless response system (HRS) leaders in understanding, engaging, and integrating recovery housing and recovery-oriented frameworks into local homeless response efforts. It is intended to guide collaboration between Continuums of Care (CoCs), coordinated entry leads, local governments, shelters, outreach teams, housing navigators, behavioral health partners, recovery housing providers, peers and peer-led organizations, and recovery community organizations.

Access New Resources

Partner Resources

How Wearables and Other Digital Tools Are Driving Innovation in Behavioral Health

SAMHSA

This [advisory](#) helps healthcare providers, public health professionals, policymakers, and patients and their families understand how wearables can integrate into behavioral health care services. It highlights digital innovations, explains how wearables can expand access to self-management and care, and addresses ethical and privacy considerations associated with these evolving technologies.

National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)

SAMHSA

SAMHSA has released the latest findings from the [National Survey on Drug Use and](#)

in the U.S. The [2025 NSDUH releases](#) include data on trends in suicide, mental health, and substance use from 2021 to 2025.

Partner Events

- [Webinar](#): Integrated Systems Care for Opioid Use Disorder and Co-Occurring Disorders
August 25, 4:00pm ET. Opioid Response Network, National Council for Mental Wellbeing
- [Webinar](#): Interventions for Military to Civilian Transitions
August 26, 2:00pm ET. National Coalition for Homeless Veterans

Please direct questions or concerns to: info@hhrctraining.org



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