



HOMELESS &
HOUSING
RESOURCE
CENTER

Low-Barrier Shelter Models for People Who Use Drugs

November 14, 2023

Disclaimer

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ASL Interpretation and Transcription

- We have arranged for ASL interpretation services during this meeting. The ASL interpreters are:
 - Pamela Mitchell
 - Dave Gratzer
- Live transcription is available
 - Click Live Transcript  and then select Show Subtitle
 - Subtitles can be moved within the window and re-sized
- If you are experiencing technical difficulties, please contact info@hhrctraining.org





Webinar Instructions

- All participant lines will be muted and the chat feature is disabled
- **Questions:** Please submit your questions using the Q&A feature
- **Slides:** Available now on HHRC website: <https://hhrctraining.org/events-webinars>
- **Recording:** Will be available on the HHRC website within 1 week
- **Evaluation:** Link will be shared at the end and browser should redirect you
- **Certificate of Participation** (no CEUs are offered): Provided after the evaluation is completed

National Health Care for the Homeless Council:

- Mission Statement: Grounded in human rights and social justice, the National Health Care for the Homeless Council's mission is to build an equitable, high-quality health care system through training, research, and advocacy in the movement to end homelessness.
- Since 1986, NHCHC has brought together thousands of health care professionals, medical respite care providers, people with lived experience of homelessness, and advocates. Our 200+ Organizational Members include Health Care for the Homeless programs, respite programs, and housing and social service organizations across the country.

What We Do

- We work to improve homeless health care through training and technical assistance, researching and sharing best practices, advocating for solutions to end homelessness, and uplifting voices of people experiencing homelessness.

What You Can Do

- Learn more about how you can help support our mission: www.nhchc.org

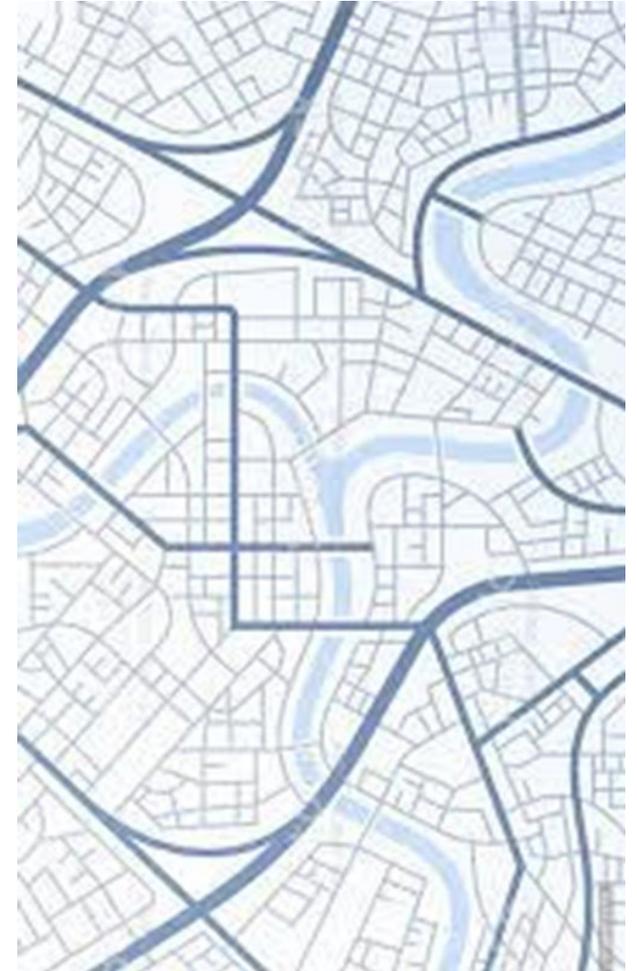
Self-care

- These can be difficult topics as they intersect with our personal and professional experiences.
- In this webinar we discuss substance use and harm reduction. These topics may feel uncomfortable and what is discussed may be different than your personal beliefs or experience, and that is ok.
- Please take care of yourself as you need to.



Agenda

- Introduction to Low Barrier Shelters
- Examples from the Field
 - Camillus House - Miami, FL
 - Beacon House - Philadelphia, PA
- Panel discussion
- Q & A



Speakers

Jenny Gomez, LCSW (she/her/hers) – Director of Behavioral Health Services, Camillus House, Miami, Florida

Dale Tippett (he/him/they) – Director of Homeless Services, Prevention Point, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Kate Gleason Bachman, MPH, RN, WCC (she/her/hers) – Clinical and Quality Improvement Nurse Manager, National Health Care for the Homeless Council

Romel Castejon, Content Expert, Miami, FL

Low Barrier Shelter Basics

- **What does it mean to be low barrier?**
- Low barrier encompasses multiple models and individual components can be implemented based on community and organizational needs
- Consider:
 - Sobriety requirements
 - Intake process - establishing harm reduction approaches and expectations
 - Harm reduction approaches - focus on safety, overdose prevention
 - Supports for participants
 - Curfew and bed retention policies
 - Bag checks/use on site policies
 - Referrals: housing, substance use treatment, medical care
 - Retention in shelter - safety focused, collaborative approach

NATIONAL
HEALTH CARE
for the
HOMELESS
COUNCIL



CAMILLUS HOUSE

Responding to Crisis with Compassion

A Low Barrier Shelter in Miami, Florida

Jenny Gomez, LCSW

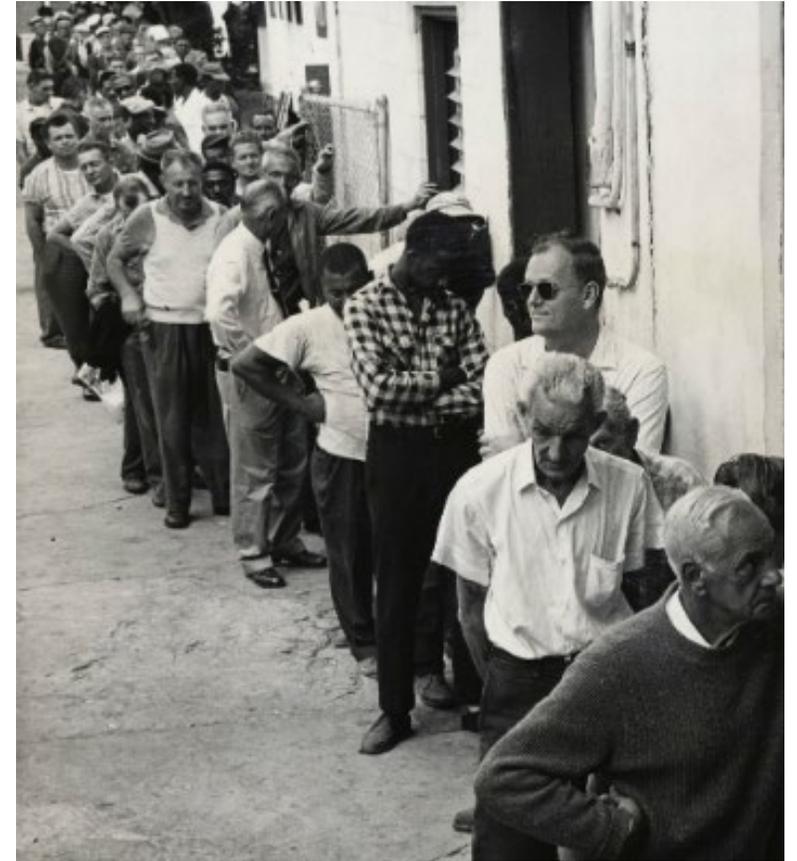
Director of Behavioral Health Services

jennyg@camillus.org

Learning Objectives

- Discuss essential characteristics of low-barrier programs to improve access to services for people who use drugs
- Learn strategies for addressing common challenges in implementing low-barrier shelter access
- Overview:
 - About Camillus House
 - Services provided
 - What are low barrier shelters?
 - Programs and Admissions
 - Camillus YoUniversity
 - Residential Treatment
 - Human Trafficking
 - Housing
 - Training and Education
 - IDEA Syringe Exchange
 - Safety and Harm Reduction
 - Challenges
 - Lived Expertise
 - Questions

About Camillus House



Our Mission:

Rooted in the compassionate Hospitality of St. John of God, we improve the quality of life of those who are vulnerable and homeless in South Florida through the provision of a continuum of housing and supportive services.



Hospitaller Order of Saint John of God

Province of the Good Shepherd in North America

<https://sjog-na.org/locations/>

- **Albuquerque, New Mexico**

- The Good Shepherd Center was founded in 1951 and provides food, clothing, shelter, health services, emergency assistance, and community resources. It also serves as a service outlet for other homeless programs that do not provide residential shelter including emergency medical and post-hospitalization aftercare and health care for homeless referrals.

- **Momence, Illinois**

- The Good Shepherd Manor was founded in 1981 as a residential facility that serves the needs of men with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are not capable of earning their own livelihood or meeting their basic needs in a non-structured environment.

- **Westville Grove, New Jersey**

- For nearly 50 years, St. John of God Community Services has proudly provided services to thousands of children and adults with disabilities. The participants developed their own coffee grounds called Holy Grounds Coffee. To buy some of their coffee visit: <https://www.holygroundscoffeeld.org/>

- **Hamilton, Ontario Canada**

- Good Shepherd Centre started as a men's hostel in 1961 and has grown to become the greater Hamilton area's largest social service agency providing hope, unconditional love, dignity and respect, committing to compassion, acceptance and understanding of the human condition by providing food, shelter, and rehabilitative programs focusing on harm reduction.

- **Toronto, Ontario Canada**

- The Good Shepherd Centre was established in 1963 and is a shelter providing services to the homeless and disadvantaged; Barrett House, a supportive housing residence for people living with HIV/AIDS; and St. Joseph's Residence, a supportive housing residence for seniors with a history of homelessness.

- **Montreal, Quebec Canada**

- The Brothers in Montreal serve the residents at Residence Les Deux Aires, a retirement community for those with a history of homelessness.

Camillus House Services

- ▶ Day center
- ▶ Emergency shelter
- ▶ Residential substance use and mental health treatment
- ▶ Human trafficking
- ▶ Transitional and permanent housing
- ▶ Homeless prevention
- ▶ Specialized street outreach
- ▶ Job training and placement
- ▶ Health care and disease prevention
- ▶ Behavioral health and maintenance



DAY CENTER

TOTAL NUMBER OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES PROVIDED: 75,232

NUMBER OF UNIQUE CLIENTS SERVED BY DAY CENTER: 3,731

BREAKDOWN OF SERVICES PROVIDED



195,017 MEALS
SERVED TO THE HUNGRY

99% OF CAMILLUS HOUSE PERMANENT
HOUSING RESIDENTS MAINTAINED HOUSING

15,912 VOLUNTEER HRS
SUPPORTED OUR PROGRAMS



WHO WE SERVE OF 8123 CLIENTS SERVED IN HOUSING AND SERVICES PROGRAMS:

AGE	# OF PERSONS	% OF TOTAL
17 YRS OLD	731	9%
62 YRS OLD	1543	19%
ALMOST 30% WERE UNDER 17 OR OLDER THAN 62 YEARS OLD (VULNERABLE POPULATIONS)		
70% MALE	29% FEMALE	1% OTHER

FAMILIES

1,369 FAMILY MEMBERS SERVED THROUGH CAMILLUS PERMANENT HOUSING & HOMELESS PREVENTION PROGRAMS

- 344 HOUSEHOLDS
- 48% OF FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS ARE CHILDREN <17 YRS OLD

THOSE NEEDING HEALING

- 235 UNIQUE CLIENTS SERVED IN MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTION PROGRAMS
- 600+ HOURS OF GROUP THERAPY PROVIDED
- 48% OF INDIVIDUALS COMPLETED RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT



3,415 UNIQUE CLIENTS SAFELY HOUSED

1,398
EMERGENCY
HOUSING
CLIENTS
SERVED

235
CLIENTS
RECEIVED
RESIDENTIAL
TREATMENT

115
CLIENTS WERE
PROVIDED
TRANSITIONAL
HOUSING

1,311
RESIDENTS LIVE IN
CAMILLUS-PROVIDED
PERMANENT
HOUSING

356
RAPID REHOUSING
CLIENTS MOVED
INTO PERMANENT
HOUSING

What are low barrier shelters?

- Do not require the following in order for an individual to stay at the shelter:
 - criminal background checks, credit checks, or income verification
 - sobriety
 - identification
 - medication compliance
 - program participation (depending on the type of program)
 - allow pets
 - less rigid rules, more focus on autonomy and self-determination

They may, however, enforce safety requirements for self, staff, and others, such as:

- no weapons
- no drugs or paraphernalia on campus
- no threatening/physically aggressive behaviors towards others



Day Center

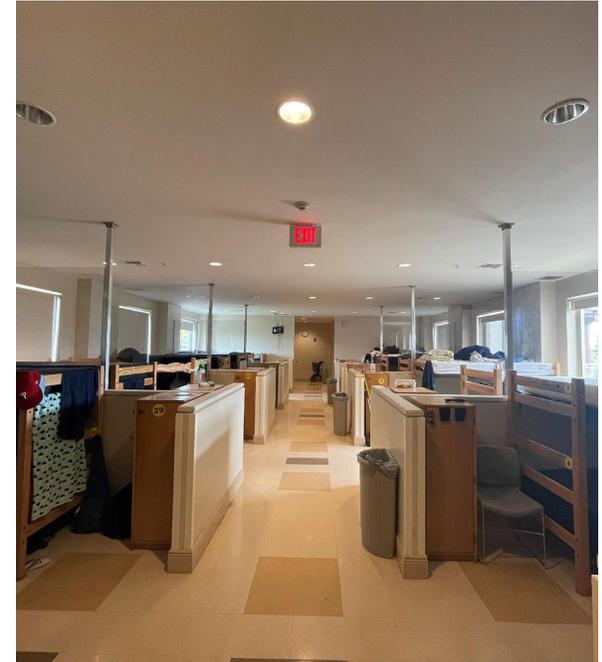
- First 100 unsheltered individuals can enter daily to access day center services which include:

- Hot meals
- Showers
- Clean clothes
- Laundry room
- Mail room
- Job placement
- Housing referrals
- Library
- Computers
- Camillus YOUiversity classes
- Various therapeutic activities



Emergency Housing

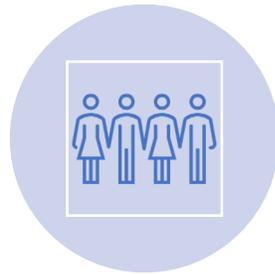
- 294 beds in a congregate setting
- Various providers have contracted beds
- Assigned a case manager upon admission, clinician available upon request
- Length of stay depends on the funding source (24 hour beds, 30, 60, or 90+ days)
- Can request extensions depending on need and availability
- Check in with case manager once a week
- Curfew is 10pm, but can obtain late pass from case manager if working or going to be late
- Everyone is given up to 3 days to miss bed count before losing their bed (case by case basis)
- Kennel for up to 18 pets, supplies and food provided, mobile vet clinic once a month, dog park on campus
- Provided with all 3 meals, clothing, laundry, training programs, employment services, referral to substance use and mental health treatment
- Medical and psychiatric care available on site



Admissions



Accepted into a shelter bed directly from the referral source, through coordinated entry, or walk in depending on the program and bed availability.



Must be able to complete Activities of Daily Living (ADL's), ambulate on their own or with assistive device. The campus is ADA compliant.



All individuals are immediately quailed (must take a shower and have clothing washed using bed bug soap).



Welcome letter provided on their first day, orientation, ID badge, covid test, TB test, assigned a case manager, and scheduled for physical exam and psychiatric services as needed.

Welcome Letter

DATE: _____ TIME OF PLACEMENT: _____ AM/PM (circle one)

WELCOME TO CAMILLUS HOUSE!

CLIENT FIRST & LAST NAME: _____ HMIS #: _____

YOU HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED BED #: _____ IN BUILDING: **D** (Charity Unlimited)

IN THE _____ PROGRAM.

Please be advised that due to COVID precautions, you will be given a COVID Rapid Test. A Resident Assistant (wearing a light blue shirt) will then assist you with the rest of the check-in process.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION—PLEASE READ CAREFULLY & KEEP THIS PAPER FOR REFERENCE:

- You are scheduled to receive a **TB TEST** at the 2nd fl. clinic on: _____ at _____ am/pm.
(Day/Date)
- Your **CASE MANAGER** is: _____; 305-374-1065, X _____.
- You are scheduled to **MEET WITH YOUR CASE MANAGER** at _____ on _____.
(Time) (Day/Date)
- You are scheduled to **GET YOUR CAMILLUS ID** in the Day Center Lobby on _____ at _____ am/pm.
(Day/Date)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION/INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE

- ◆ **CAMILLUS HOUSE ADDRESS/Dirección:** 1545 NW 7 Avenue, Miami, FL, 33136
- ◆ **MAIL ROOM HOURS/Horas de Correo:** Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 12:30pm
- ◆ **DINING ROOM HOURS/Horario De Comedor:**
Monday to Friday/Lunes a Viernes
BREAKFAST/Desayuno: 6:30am—7:30am
LUNCH/Almuerzo: 11:45am—12:45pm
DINNER/Cena: 5:00pm—6:00pm
Saturday & Sunday/Sabado Y Domingo
BREAKFAST/Desayuno: 6:30am—7:30am
LUNCH/Almuerzo: 12 Noon—1:30pm
DINNER/Cena: 5:00pm—6:00pm
- ◆ **CURFEW/Toque de Queda:** 10:00pm – every day/todos los dias

- **CLINIC/Clinica:** Bldg. G, 2nd Fl/piso
- **DINING HALL/Comedor:** Bldg. B, 1st Fl/piso
- **ANGULO EMPLOYMENT CENTER/Centro De Empleo Angulo:** Bldg. A, 1st Fl/piso
- **EMERGENCY HOUSING CASE MANAGER OFFICES/Oficinas de Trabajadores Social:** Bldg. G, 1st Fl/piso
- **MAIL ROOM/Correo:** Bldg. G, 1st Fl/piso
- **BANK OF AMERICA ROOM:** Bldg B, 3rd Fl/piso



Camillus House YOUiversity – November 2023 (Rev. 10.23.23)

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat/Sun
		<p>1 <i>Art Therapy</i> (9AM–10AM); Art Room, David Rohn <i>Computer Literacy</i> (9:30AM–11AM); Pampuri Room, MDC Hospitality Institute <i>Searching and Applying for Jobs</i> (11AM–12PM); Pampuri Room, MDC Hospitality Institute</p>	<p>2 <i>Managing a Household</i> (9:30AM–11AM); Pampuri Room, MDC <i>Cooking 101</i> (11AM–12PM); Pampuri Room, MDC Hospitality Institute</p>	<p>3 <i>Art Therapy</i> (9AM–10AM; 11AM–12PM); Art Room, David Rohn <i>DMV Services</i> (10AM–2PM); Building G Front Lobby - By Appointment Only; see your Case Manager <i>Entering the Job Market</i> (9:30AM–10:30AM); Pampuri Room, MDC Hospitality Institute <i>Preparing for the Interview</i> (10:30AM–11:30AM); Pampuri Room, MDC Hospitality Institute <i>Professional Etiquette</i> (11:30AM–12PM); Pampuri Room, MDC Hospitality Institute <i>Smoking Cessation</i> (1PM–2:30PM); Olallo Room</p>	<p>4</p> <hr/> <p>5</p>
<p>6 <i>Haircuts</i> (6PM–8PM); Courtyard, SPOT Barber Academy</p>	<p>7 <i>Art Therapy</i> (10AM–12PM); Art Room, David Rohn <i>Haircuts</i> (11AM–2PM); Courtyard, SPOT Barber Academy</p>	<p>8 <i>Art Therapy</i> (9AM–10AM); Art Room, David Rohn <i>Personal Budgeting</i> (1PM–2PM); Pampuri Room, TD Bank, N.A</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 <i>Art Therapy</i> (9AM–10AM; 11AM–12PM); Art Room, David Rohn <i>Búsqueda de Vivienda</i> (1PM–2PM); Pampuri Room <i>Opciones de Vivienda</i> (2PM–3PM); Pampuri Room</p>	<p>11</p> <hr/> <p>12</p>
<p>13 <i>Haircuts</i> (6PM–8PM); Courtyard, SPOT Barber Academy</p>	<p>14 <i>Immigration Law Clinic</i> (9AM–3PM) Catholic Legal Services - By Appointment Only; see your Case Manager <i>Art Therapy</i> (10AM–12PM); Art Room, David Rohn <i>Haircuts</i> (11AM–2PM); Courtyard, SPOT Barber Academy <i>Understanding Credit Scores</i> (1PM–2PM); Pampuri Room, Selines Silverio</p>	<p>15 <i>Art Therapy</i> (9AM–10AM); Art Room, David Rohn <i>Vaccinations</i> (8:30AM–12PM); Library, Florida Department of Health <i>Computer Literacy</i> (9:30AM–11AM); Pampuri Room, MDC Hospitality Institute <i>Searching and Applying for Jobs</i> (11AM–12PM); Pampuri Room, MDC Hospitality Institute <i>Housing Search</i> (1PM–2PM); Olallo Room <i>Housing Options</i> (2PM–3PM); Olallo Room</p>	<p>16 <i>Roommates 101</i> (9:30AM–10:15AM); Pampuri Room, MDC <i>Conflict Resolution</i> (10:15AM–11AM); Pampuri Room, MDC <i>Time Management</i> (11AM–11:30AM); Pampuri Room, MDC <i>Social Diversity and Cross Cultural Skills</i> (11:30AM–12PM); Pampuri Room, MDC Hospitality Institute</p>	<p>17 <i>Art Therapy</i> (9AM–10AM; 11AM–12PM); Art Room, David Rohn <i>Entering the Job Market</i> (9:30AM–10:30AM); Pampuri Room, MDC Hospitality Institute <i>Preparing for the Interview</i> (10:30AM–11:30AM); Pampuri Room, MDC Hospitality Institute <i>Professional Etiquette</i> (11:30AM–12PM); Pampuri Room, MDC Hospitality Institute <i>Smoking Cessation</i> (1PM–2:30PM); Olallo Room <i>LGBTQ+ Support Group</i> (2PM–3PM); Pampuri Room, Jessica Hernandez</p>	<p>18 <i>Legal Clinic</i> (10AM–12PM) Lawyers to the Rescue - By Appointment Only; see your Case Manager</p> <hr/> <p>19 <i>Project Unleashed</i> (8AM–12PM); Bldg G Front Lobby</p>
<p>20 <i>Personal Budgeting</i> (11AM–12PM); Pampuri Room, Bank United, N.A <i>Haircuts</i> (6PM–8PM); Courtyard, SPOT Barber Academy</p>	<p>21 <i>Art Therapy</i> (10AM–12PM); Art Room, David Rohn <i>Haircuts</i> (11AM–2PM); Courtyard, SPOT Barber Academy</p>	<p>22 <i>Art Therapy</i> (9AM–10AM); Art Room, David Rohn <i>Banking and Credit</i> (1PM–2PM); Pampuri Room, TD Bank, N.A.</p>	<p>23 THANKSGIVING</p>	<p>24 <i>Art Therapy</i> (9AM–10AM; 11AM–12PM); Art Room, David Rohn</p>	<p>25</p> <hr/> <p>26</p>
<p>27 <i>Haircuts</i> (6PM–8PM); Courtyard, SPOT Barber Academy</p>	<p>28 <i>Art Therapy</i> (10AM–12PM); Art Room, David Rohn <i>Haircuts</i> (11AM–2PM); Courtyard, SPOT Barber Academy</p>	<p>29 <i>Art Therapy</i> (9AM–10AM); Art Room, David Rohn <i>Computer Literacy</i> (9:30AM–11AM); Pampuri Room, MDC Hospitality Institute <i>Searching and Applying for Jobs</i> (11AM–12PM); Pampuri Room, MDC Hospitality Institute <i>Housing Options</i> (6PM–7PM); Olallo Room <i>Housing Search</i> (7PM–8PM); Olallo Room</p>	<p>30 <i>Managing a Household</i> (9:30AM–11AM); Pampuri Room, MDC <i>Cooking 101</i> (11AM–12PM); Pampuri Room, MDC Hospitality Institute</p>	<p>Key: Mandatory for all Camillus House residents Mandatory for clients in Employment program By Registration Only; see your Case Manager to sign up</p>	

HOUSING OPTIONS
OPCIONES DE VIVIENDA

- • • **RAPID REHOUSING**
- • • **PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING**
- • • **PROJECT BASED**
- • • **AFFORDABLE HOUSING MARKET RATE**

Understand the difference between different housing opportunities and the process to qualify for each type.
Comprenda la diferencia entre las diferentes oportunidades de vivienda y el proceso para calificar para cada tipo.

ENGLISH: November 29th: 6pm-7pm
OLALLO ROOM
November 15th: 2pm-3pm
ESPAÑOL: 10 de Noviembre: 2pm-3pm
PAMPURI ROOM

LGBTQ+ SUPPORT GROUP

NOVEMBER 17, 2023
2:00PM - 3:00PM
PAMPURI ROOM

JOIN US FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE, CONNECT, GROW, AND BE A PART OF A LOVING COMMUNITY.

Understanding Credit Scores

November 14, 2023
1PM- 2PM
Pampuri Room

Come and learn what credit scores are, how they affect your life, and tips on how to improve them.

PERSONAL BUDGETING
PRESUPUESTO PERSONAL

NOVEMBER 8, 2023: 1PM - 2PM
NOVEMBER 20, 2023: 11AM-12PM
PAMPURI ROOM

"THIS IS A MANDATORY CLASS"
ESTA CLASE ES OBLIGATORIA

COME TO JOIN
Cooking 101
LOS FUNDAMENTOS DE LA COCINA

- Preparing quick & healthy meals
- Grocery shopping on a budget & more!
- 11am-12 noon @ Pampuri Room

Thursday November 2 & 30, 2023

What you need to know when you move into your own housing

MANAGING A HOUSEHOLD

NOVEMBER 2 & 30, 2023
9:30 AM- 11 AM
PAMPURI ROOM

COMPUTER LITERACY
CLASE DE CONCEPTOS BÁSICOS DE COMPUTACIÓN

9:30am-11am | Br. Pampuri Room
Wednesday, November 1, 15, & 29, 2023

Learn basic skills to help you apply for housing, employment, benefits, and more!
¡APRENDA HABILIDADES BÁSICAS PARA AYUDARLO A SOLICITAR VIVIENDA, EMPLEO, BENEFICIOS Y MÁS!

JOB READINESS

- ENTERING THE JOB MARKET
- PREPARING FOR THE INTERVIEW
- PROFESSIONAL ETIQUETTE

9:30am- 12pm
November 3 & 17, 2023
PAMPURI ROOM

BANKING & CREDIT

NOVEMBER 22, 2023
1pm- 2pm
Pampuri Room

Should I get a credit card?
HOW DO I OPEN AN ACCOUNT??

SEARCHING & APPLYING FOR JOBS

NOVEMBER 1, 15, & 29
11AM - 12PM
PAMPURI ROOM

Housing Search
Busqueda de Vivienda

Attend this **MANDATORY** Session for tips on where to look, what to ask, how much you can afford, and more.

ENGLISH: November 29th: 7pm-8pm- Olallo Room
November 15th: 1pm-2pm
ESPAÑOL: 10 de Noviembre: 1pm-2pm
PAMPURI ROOM

Asista a esta Sesión **OBLIGATORIA** para obtener información sobre dónde buscar, qué preguntar, cuánto puede pagar y más

Social-Emotional Readiness
Habilidades Sociales

Roommates 101
Conflict Resolution
Time Management
Social Diversity & Cross Cultural Skills

9:30am- 12pm | November 16, 2023
PAMPURI ROOM

COME LEARN ESSENTIAL LIFE SKILLS ON HOW TO INTERACT WITH OTHERS

Residential Substance Use and Mental Health Treatment

Co-Occurring REcovery (CORE)

- Self-referred or referred by community agencies
- 3-6 month treatment for mental health and/or substance use disorders
- Includes: pre-treatment, residential levels 2, 4, day/night, outpatient, and aftercare

State Opioid Response (SOR)

- Self-referred or referred by community agencies
- 3-9 month treatment for opioid/stimulant use disorder
- Includes: pre-treatment, residential levels 2, day/night, outpatient, and aftercare
- Highly encouraged to be on Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)

Jail Diversion

- Individuals referred by the 11th Judicial Mental Health Court or Federal Court for misdemeanors or felonies with a primary severe mental illness (SMI) diagnosis
- Includes Veteran Treatment Court and Marchman Act beds

Grant for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals (GBHI)

- 5 year SAMHSA grant provides up to 6 months of extended treatment for those who need longer time
- Provides assistance with employment, disability benefits, and housing



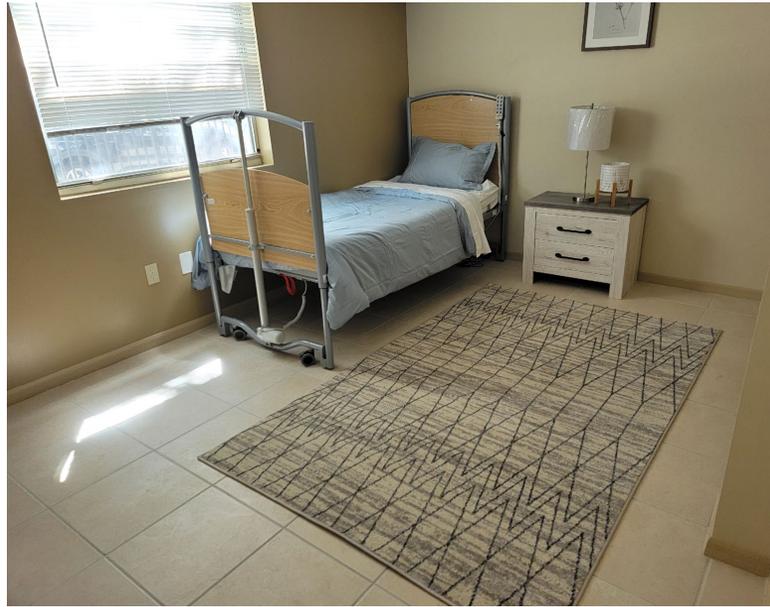


Human Trafficking

- Low barrier shelter model
- Accepts individuals 24/7 with staff answering hotline calls, coordinating safe rescues and immediate admissions
- Safe space with assigned badge access where only the individuals and staff in the program can enter the area
- Separate showers, living room, kitchen, and patio from the rest of the shelter
- Self referred or referred through various agencies
 - Homeland Security, State Attorneys Office, Department of Justice, hospitals, police, other shelters or community agencies
- Can stay up to 2 years and referred to housing when ready
- Provided with medical, psychiatric, and substance use treatment if needed and at their own pace

Brother Bill Bridge Housing

- Transitional housing for individuals with a chronic history of homelessness who use drugs; sobriety is not a requirement
- 12 remodeled 2 or 3 bedroom units, housing a total of 28 individuals
- Referred through coordinated entry
- When they feel ready, they are referred to their own permanent supportive housing program
- Provided with life skills training, therapy, case management, referral to treatment if requested, nursing and medication management





Training & Education for Participants

- Culinary, hospitality, GED, computer literacy, CDL and forklift, ESOL for Spanish speakers
- Partnerships with local colleges, universities, and training institutions to provide degrees and certifications
- Classes are on campus
- Any participant of Camillus House can register
- Provided with a stipend upon completion
- Connected to employment opportunities

University of Miami's IDEA Syringe Exchange Program

- Florida's first syringe exchange program started in 2016 right across the street from Camillus House
- Mutual participants enrolled in our programs, from street outreach to emergency shelter to treatment to human trafficking to housing
- Weekly Camillus House and IDEA team rounds to discuss participants
- Coordination of care when participants are hospitalized, need wound care, medications, are missing, graduate the program, obtain housing, etc.



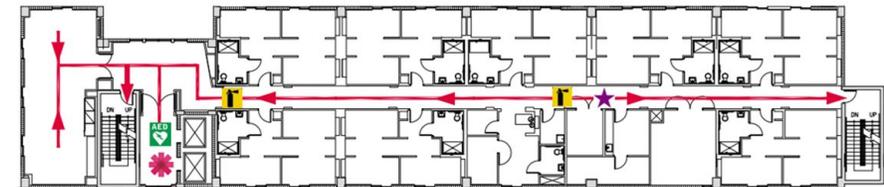
Safety & Harm Reduction

- 3,415 individuals safely housed each year
- 235 participants receive treatment each year
- Staff are trained on overdose prevention and how to administer Narcan
- Opioid Emergency Kit stations installed on every floor of the shelter
- Front lobby, mail room, clothing room, security and nursing stations and other areas around campus as well as individuals in housing are provided with Narcan
- Narcan is distributed to all treatment participants upon intake along with fentanyl and xylazine test strips, condoms, and supplies to manage withdrawal symptoms are included in their welcome package
- Although drug use is not allowed on campus, they can come into the shelter under the influence as long as they do not cause issues with others
- Weekly Camillus House and IDEA team rounds to discuss participants
- Coordination of care when participants are hospitalized, need wound care, medications, are missing, have obtained housing, etc.



CHARITY UMLIMITED (BLDG. D)

EIGHTH FLOOR * OCTAVO PISO * WITYEM ETAJ



EVACUATION ROUTE
RUTA DE EVACUACION
EVAKYASYON ROUTE

You Are Here
Usted Está Aquí
Ou Se Isit La

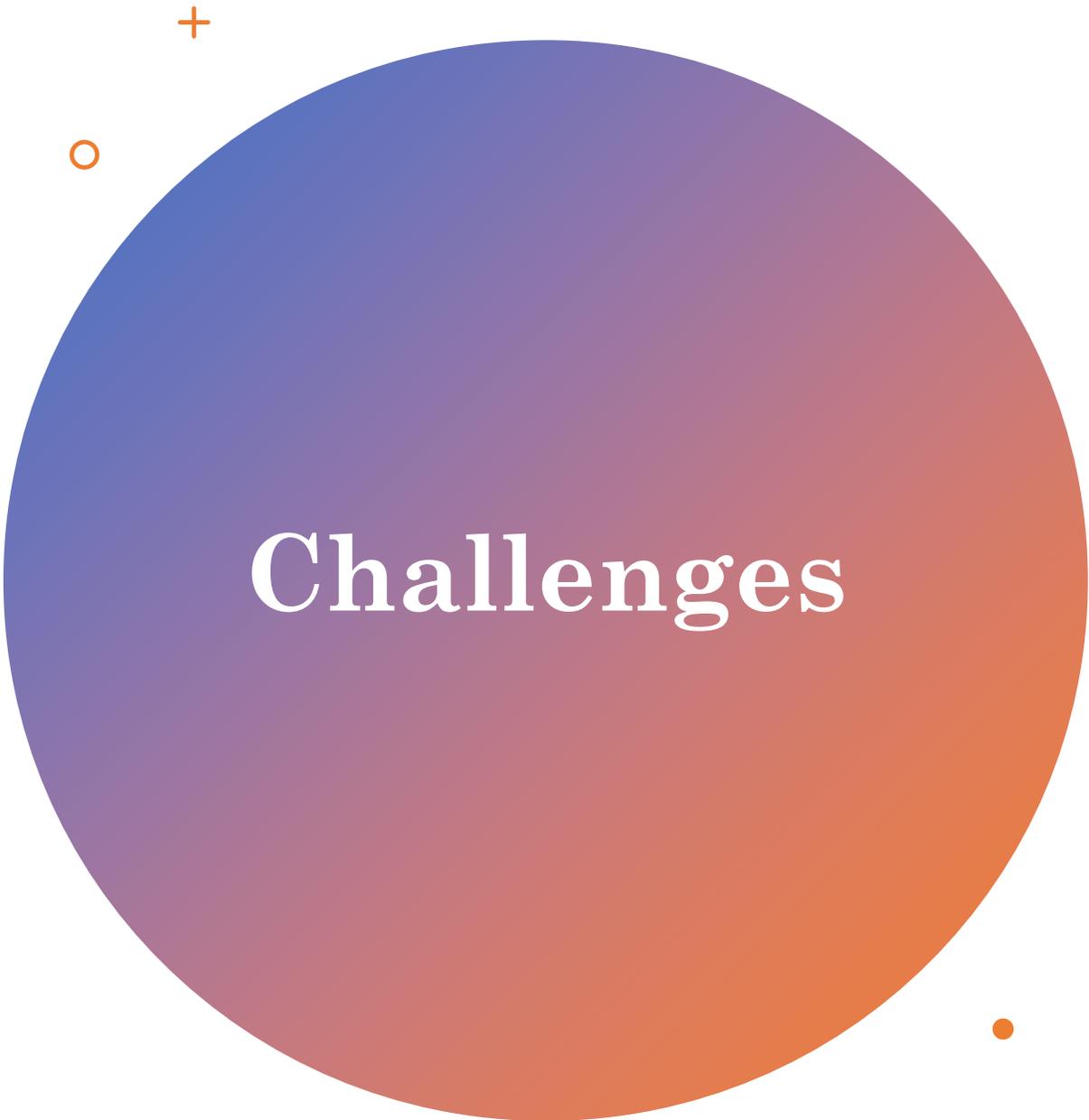
Equipment located on First Floor
Equipo situado en el primer piso
Ekipman sitiye nan premye etaj

First Aid
Primeros auxilios
Premye swen

Fire Extinguisher
Extintidor de Fuego
Incendios Ekstenkté

Narcan

AED Automated external defibrillator
Desfibrilador externo automatizado
Otomatik defibrilateur ekstèn

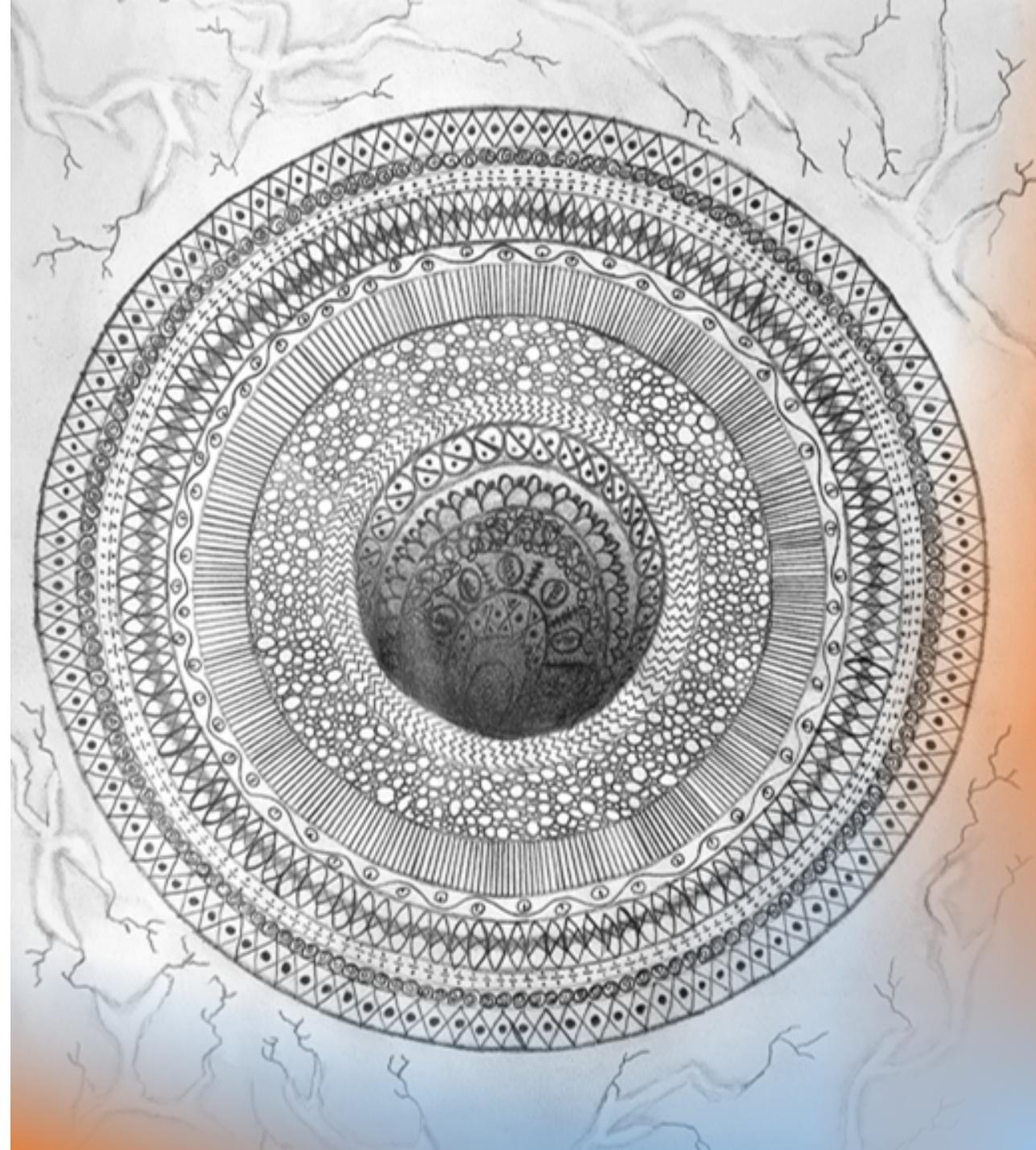


Challenges

- Stigma associated with substance use
- Current street drug supply – fentanyl, xylazine, new synthetic opioids, etc.
- Navigating homelessness, complex substance use, mental health, and medical issues simultaneously
- Implementation of harm reduction across all programs – constant training and education
- Having a residential treatment program situated within a low barrier shelter – finding balance and safety for all
- Increase in rent, shortage in affordable housing availability
- Policy issues – discharging individuals who are caught with drugs or paraphernalia on campus
- Need for safe consumption sites to safely manage overdoses

Lived Expertise

- Participant: Romel
- Has been staying at Camillus House since Nov 2022
- Has participated in the SOR program and is now in GBHI
- Personal experience living in a low barrier shelter and receiving treatment services
- Challenges/lessons learned
- Accomplishments
- Suggestions for other providers



Thank you!

Any Questions?





PREVENTION POINT PHILADELPHIA

Harm Reduction in Action

Dale Tippett



About Us

Our Mission:

To promote health, empowerment and safety for communities affected by drug use and poverty.

Our Vision:

- In our ideal world, there will be social and economic justice for disenfranchised people. Behaviors such as drug use and sex industry work will be viewed as ever-present parts of the human experience.
- Services and support to reduce the harm associated with risky behavior will be readily available through social service and public health systems that are welcoming, nonjudgmental, and non-criminalized.



Our Values

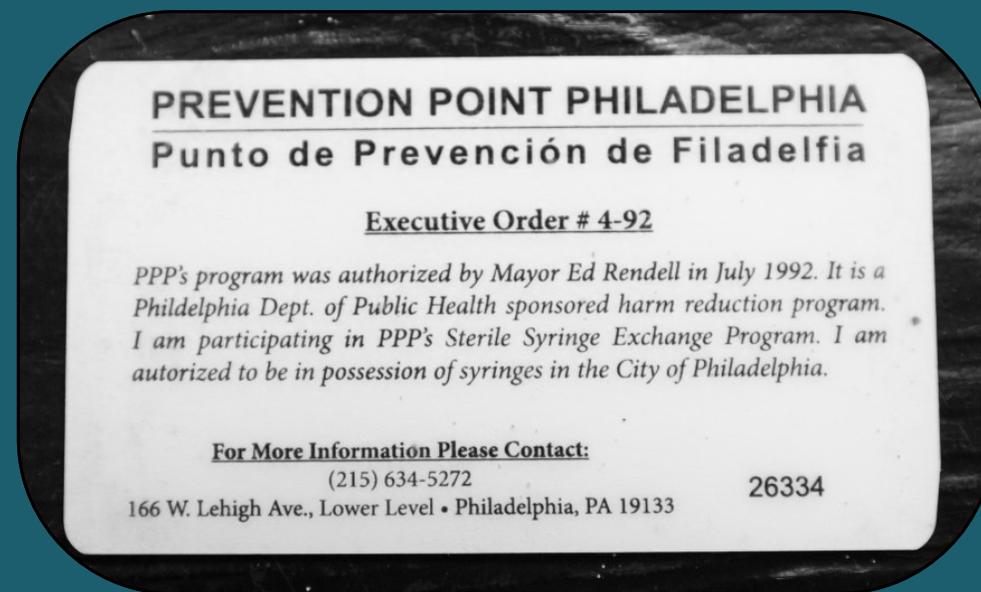
Participants, staff members and the Board expressed the following values as fundamental to our mission.

- Nonjudgmental
- Respect
- Trust
- Justice
- Responsibility
- Advocacy
- Flexibility
- Transparency



History

- PPP began in 1991 as a grassroots underground syringe services program run by members of Philly's ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) chapter. Possession and distribution of syringes at that time was illegal.
- Major lobbying efforts led to Mayor Ed Rendell issuing an Executive Order (4-92) in 1992, legalizing the possession of syringes in Philadelphia and overriding the laws of the State of Pennsylvania, which are still in existence today.



WE NOW OFFER:



Mail services



Case
management



Medication-assisted
treatment and
recovery



Overdose
prevention +
reversal training



Free meals and
coffee



Free medical
care

AND MUCH
MORE!



Syringe
services



Wound Care
Clinic



Free HIV and
HCV testing



Drop-In Center



Linkage to drug
and alcohol
treatment



Housing services

Housing Services

- One of the lowest barrier shelters in the US
- Program space and structure designed to meet the unique needs of this population. Policies are focused on risk reduction, create flexibility, and allow for self determination
- Outreach teams provide life-sustain care until people are ready to come inside



OVERVIEW



Emphasize safety and respect for the space/community



Bag Checks?



Amnesty Boxes / Sharps



Curfew



Bed Floors



Paraphernalia and Use

STAFFING

- Staff are there to monitor and engage ‘if needed’.
 - Monitoring Bathrooms and Showers
 - Preparing & Serving Meals
 - Overdose Prevention, Response & Reversal
 - Crisis Intervention & Support

How we Train & Support our Staff:

- On the Job Training / Shadowing
 - Training Plans
 - Leadership Academy
 - PTO
 - Generous/Flexible





All paraphernalia (including syringes) must be turned over to staff for safekeeping while in the facility.



Please be respectful of our neighbors and do not use in the area immediately around any Prevention Point building.



Use of illegal drugs is absolutely not allowed in the facility at any time. In addition, use immediately around the building will be considered use on-site. If you are found actively using in or around the facility the following protocol will be followed:

- First time will be a verbal warning and conversation with on-site staff
- After the first instance, future instances will lead to a meeting with case management staff and possibly being asked to stay out of the facility for 1-3 nights.
- Frequent and continual on-site use may lead to discharge from the facility



Dealing illegal drugs in or around the building is not permitted. If you are found dealing any drugs in or near the building, the following protocol will be followed:

- First time will be a required meeting with case management staff and a recommitment letter, as well as possibly being asked to stay out of the facility for 1-3 days.
- After the first instance, if this behavior continues, you will be discharged from the program.

Taking Breaks & Discharge

- Substance use disorder can affect how a person eats, sleeps, and processes new information – therefore affecting how they interact with others
- Increases in K2 and Meth use have (unfortunately) led to an increase in aggressive and violent behavior
- We first attempt verbal de-escalation
- "Taking a break" holds an individual accountable to inappropriate behavior and removes them from the community while giving an opportunity to recommit to program expectations
 - Can be as short as a one hour "cool off" or as long as a few days
 - Useful for more minor infractions, first time offenses
- When discharging, what other resources can be made available?

Questions?

Dale Tippett , dale@ppponline.org



Panelists

- **DALE TIPPETT (HE/HIM/THEY)**,
Director of Homeless Services, Prevention Point Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA
- **JENNY GOMEZ (SHE/HER/HERS)**, LCSW
Director of Behavioral Health Services, Camillus House, Miami, FL
- Romel Castejon
Content Expert, Miami, FL



Evaluation and Certificate of Participation

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Thank You!

SAMHSA's Homeless and Housing Resource Center provides high-quality, no-cost training for health and housing professionals in evidence-based practices that contributes to housing stability, recovery, and an end to homelessness.

Contact Us:

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