

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

March 14, 2018

TO: The Honorable Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senate Committee on Labor

FROM: Scott Morishige, MSW, Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness

SUBJECT: HB 2019 HD1 – RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS

Hearing: Wednesday, March 14, 2018, 3:15 p.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

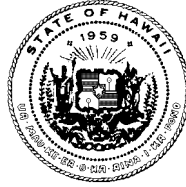
POSITION: The Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness supports this measure, provided that the measure's passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the bill is to establish a three-year homeless employment grant program that provides homeless individuals with work opportunities and connects them with service providers. The bill requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to develop and administer a pilot program. The bill also appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds to be expended by DHS to implement the pilot program.

The Coordinator notes that the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) maintains a contract with Waikiki Health's Next Step Shelter to employ shelter residents for janitorial and trash removal services in Kaka'ako Makai. The existing HCDA program is similar to the pilot program described in this bill and provides homeless persons with direct employment, on-the-job training, and a connection to shelter and other appropriate homeless services. In addition to the HCDA program, other homeless service

providers offer similar employment training programs that are intended to develop job skills and promote civic responsibility.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 14, 2018

TO: The Honorable Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senate Committee on Human Services

The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senate Committee on Labor

FROM: Pankaj Bhanot, Director

SUBJECT: **HB 2019 HD1 – RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS**

Hearing: Wednesday, March 14, 2018, 3:15 p.m.
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this bill and offers comments.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this bill establishes a 3-year homeless employment grant program that provides homeless individuals with work opportunities and connects them with service providers. Requires the Department of Human Services to submit a report to the Legislature prior to the 2019 Regular Session. Appropriates funds.

According to the National Alliance for Ending Homelessness, meaningful and sustainable employment is the key to creating and maintain housing stability. Unemployment, underemployment, and low wages relative to rent are frequent causes of homelessness and burden millions of families with the risk of becoming homeless. Further, DHS recognizes that there is not enough housing subsidy to sustain housing for everyone who may need assistance. Alternatively, working with participant to gain meaningful and sustainable income is one strategy to help fill in the gap.

DHS has a number of existing programs that provide job training and opportunities available to homeless clients with children. Programs such as SEE Hawaii Work, (<http://humanservices.hawaii.gov/see/>), assist families with children who receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)/Temporary Assistance for Other Needy Families (TAONF) financial benefits, and the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program, Employment and Training Program (SNAP E&T) provides services for individuals who receive SNAP benefits. The City and County of Honolulu has the Rent to Work program, exclusive to individuals experiencing homelessness.

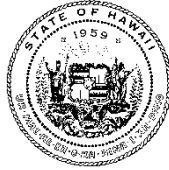
Homeless agencies across the continuum have also recognized that securing or increasing income through employment will help place participants into permanent housing and keep them housed. The Institute of Human Services' (IHS) Hele2Work, has been successful in providing complete services from an initial assessment to job placement. Hele2Work can be mobile and will meet the needs of participants. IHS continues to build relationships with employers in the community so participants gain access to jobs that pay more than the minimum wage.

DHS will begin to assess the administrative and other expenses required to establish such a program. However, we ask that that should this measure proceed that it not supplant resources from identified priorities and ongoing programs, and that the committee continue to support the Governor's supplemental budget request to address homelessness and the framework plan established to address homelessness in Hawaii.

DHS requests that the effective date of the measure give DHS enough time to develop the program, consult with our partners, implement rules, and procure required services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



SARAH ALLEN
ADMINISTRATOR
MARA SMITH
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE**

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TESTIMONY
OF
SARAH ALLEN, ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES
ON
HUMAN SERVICES
AND
LABOR

Wednesday, March 14, 2018, 3:15 PM

HOUSE BILL 2019, HD1
RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS

Chairs Green and Tokuda, Vice Chairs Chang and English, and members of the committees, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on House Bill 2019, HD1. The State Procurement Office (SPO) supports the intent of this bill but opposes the 103D, Hawaii Revised Statutes exemption language contained therein and submits comments. The State Procurement Office's (SPO) comments are limited to:

Section 2(B), pages 2 to 3, lines 19-20 and 1-2: The department of human services shall contract with a service provider or other qualified person or entity... "provided that the contract shall be exempt from chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised Statutes."

Contracting for an administrator, as well as the related services for the intended program should be accomplished through a best value request for proposals (RFP) where desired attributes and competencies can be defined in weighted evaluation criteria and minimum standards required. Best value is defined as the outcome of any procurement that ensures customer needs are met in the most effective, timely, and economical manner. Finding the best value, then, should be the ultimate goal of every procurement.

It is in the State's best interest to do so as the statutes and rules protect both the state and potential vendors by ensuring transparency and an open process. A competitive purchase of service within current statute provides for price analysis. If these services are not procured, then a cost analysis should be conducted to fulfill the state's fiduciary responsibility to ensure the

state is paying a fair and reasonable price. These services may also be subject to HRS 103F as services falling under that statute are defined as "...services to communities, families, or individuals which are intended to maintain or improve health or social well-being..."

The Hawaii Public Procurement Code and Purchases of Health and Human Services are the single source of public procurement policy to be applied equally and uniformly, while providing fairness, open competition, a level playing field, government disclosure and transparency in the procurement and contracting process vital to good government. To permanently legislate that any one entity should be exempt from compliance with both HRS chapter 103D and 103F conveys a sense of disproportionate equality in the law's application.

Considering the serious and immediate homelessness issues faced by the State of Hawaii the SPO is actively working with the Governor's office to identify specific programs to provide temporary Hawaii Public Procurement Code exemptions.

Thank you.

HAWAII YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

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Rick Collins, President

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Director

Bay Clinic

Big Brothers Big Sisters of
Hawaii

Bobby Benson Center

Child and Family Service

Coalition for a Drug Free Hawaii

Domestic Violence Action Center

EPIC, Inc.

Family Programs Hawaii

Family Support Hawaii

Friends of the Children of
West Hawaii

Hale Kipa, Inc.

Hale 'Opio Kauai, Inc.

Hawaii Children's Action
Network

Hawaii Student Television

Ho'ola Na Pua

Kahi Mohala

Kokua Kalihi Valley

Maui Youth and Family Services

P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.

Parents and Children Together
(PACT)

Planned Parenthood of the
Great Northwest and
Hawaiian Islands

PHOCUSED

Salvation Army Family

Intervention Services

Sex Abuse Treatment Center

Susannah Wesley Community
Center

The Catalyst Group

March 11, 2018

To: Senator Josh Green, Chair
And members of the Committee on Human Services

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair
And members of the Committee on Labor

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2019 HD 1 RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN), a statewide coalition of youth-serving organizations, supports HB 2019 HD 1 Relating to Homelessness.

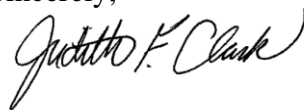
Homeless youth who are living on their own on the streets without support or guidance from their families are the most vulnerable segment of our homeless population. They have not completed their education and lack employment experience. In the 2017 Homeless Point-in-Time count, more than 80% were unsheltered.

While on the streets they have few options for meeting their basic survival needs. Homeless youth often trade sex for food, money or a place to sleep. They may be forced to eat food from garbage cans or panhandle.

An employment program would give them safer ways to meet basic needs while building the relationships and trust with support staff that will lead to leaving the streets. They would gain work experience that could lead to longer-term, competitive employment. And it would give them opportunities to contribute to their community by removing graffiti and litter.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH
Executive Director

HB-2019-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/13/2018 3:13:41 PM

Testimony for HMS on 3/14/2018 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

Good afternoon, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on **HB2019 HD1** relating to the Homeless Employment Grant Program.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of **HB2019 HD1** and supports its passage as it establishes a pilot program that: (1) assists homeless individuals by providing them temporary jobs in public service; and (2) connects homeless individuals with service providers.

HB2019 HD1 is in accord with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it establishes a 3 - year homeless employment grant program that provides homeless individuals with work opportunities and connects them with service providers. It further requires the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness to submit a report to the Legislature prior to the 2019 Regular Session on implementing the program.

The DPH Platform states that "[w]e believe that all families should have an equal opportunity to build their assets and become self-sufficient, and we support a strong safety net of programs that will afford them the opportunity to do so. . . .We support initiatives that enhance access and equity in education, employment, and business opportunities intended to lift families and individuals out of poverty and remove existing barriers to equal opportunity in our communities." (Platform of the DPH, P. 4, Lines 184185, 189-191 (2016)).

"Housing is a basic human need and we believe that adequate, accessible, affordable, and safe housing should be available to all residents of Hawai'i. Affordable housing that is fair in proportion to individual income is the basis of prosperity for our citizens and stability in our economy. . . . We believe in the concept of "Housing First" to develop affordable, stable housing and support services to break the cycle of homelessness for people with the fewest housing options. (Platform of the DPH, P. 7, Lines 340-344, 352-353 (2016)).

We support dedicated social services and housing opportunities for Hawai's homeless population, to get them off the streets and reintegrated into society, with specific devoted services for disenfranchised groups including but not limited to the Hawaiian community, aged-out foster kids, youth, returning veterans the aged and

lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender homeless. (Platform of the DPH, P. 7, Lines 355-358 (2016)).

Given that **HB2019 HD1** establishes a pilot program that assists homeless individuals by providing them with temporary jobs in public service and connects homeless individuals with service providers, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Tel.: (808) 258-8889

HB-2019-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2018 10:28:43 PM

Testimony for HMS on 3/14/2018 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Judy Fujimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2019-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2018 11:27:20 PM

Testimony for HMS on 3/14/2018 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Raelyn Reyno Yeomans	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018
[COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES](#)
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
[COMMITTEE ON LABOR](#)
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

RELATING TO: HOMESLESSNESS

POSITION: SUPPORT HB 2019 HD1

Aloha Chair **Green**, Chair **Tokuda** and Members of the Committee:

I write this testimony in support of **HB 2019 HD 1**. This bill will not take away work from county or state workers scope of work nor cause the state or county to release from service current state or county employees. This bill has the potential to employ homelessness individuals in areas such as graffiti and litter removal. There is a back log of work that needs to be done that the current work load of far beyond the bounds of the respective departments tasked with graffiti and litter removal.

This will be a net benefit to the community as more areas will be clean and maintained. Furthermore, programs like this can help connecting homeless individuals with a job and service providers. An area of concern that I have is Section 2 e. This does not set a good example for the state in creating program where persons that are partially employed are not able to seek remedy due to personal injury and or damage to personal property. It is because of those reasons I feel section 2 e should be removed from the current language.

Ken Farm

Member At Large
Neighborhood Board
Kalihi-Palama

HB-2019-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 8:31:30 AM

Testimony for HMS on 3/14/2018 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Topalian	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Fully supportive of HB2019 and legislative efforts tied to it by Rep Cynthia Thielen.

Aloha,

I want to thank the Committee on Human Services, Chair Josh Green and Vice Chair Stanley Chang; the Committee on Labor, Chair Jill N. Tokuda and Vice-Chair J. Kalani English; and the Committee on Ways and Means, Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran for allowing me to testify today in support of HB2019 HD1 today.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the bill is to establish a three-year Work-for-a-Day Pilot Program that provides homeless individuals with work opportunities and connects them with service providers.

I am from Sacramento, California and it is there I spent 10 plus years addicted to methamphetamines, alcohol and heroin. 6 of those years was also spent battling homelessness. I was struck by a vehicle while walking at night and suffered a frontal lobe contusion, concussion, and several broken bones and was eventually approved for social security after a few years. I spent most of my checks on drugs, but perhaps one of the best expenditures that I made was spending one of my month's checks to come to Hawaii. I was dirty, tired, lonely, and smelt horrible as I waited to board the plane to Honolulu.

However, at the Sacramento Airport I was approached by a man who spoke very different. He tells me "eh bra, you rails ah? Bradda, you stink - you going on da plane?" I said, "yes, I'm going to Hawaii". He says to me "come bra, come, come". He motions me toward a corner, which I was a little reluctant to follow but I was so lost at this time that I followed. We get to the side, he bends down and unzips his luggage and pulls out a small zip-lock bag of hygiene supplies, toothbrush, deodorant, cologne, and face wash and he says "try go clean, wash up, God loves you, I don't know why you headed Hawaii, but keep your head up, ah, God's Child you are".

I still don't know why I chose to come to Hawaii but now I realize that Hawaii has been my salvation. I know in my heart that if I hadn't met that sweet, very large Hawaiian man, filled with aloha, that I would still be a drug addict today. I was accepted into a clean and sober living facility in Waianae, where I lived and went to drug-treatment, later I met a local girl, started school, graduated with a liberal arts associates degree, and now I am studying Bachelors of Social Work at UH Manoa where I see many other students in my cohort with the same story, some local, some mainlanders, but the story is the same. I am the Vice President of my 2019 Cohort, and I am a Social Work Intern at Helping Hands Hawaii. Today I have 1748 days of continuous sobriety.

So, I ask, where's the aloha? Why we cannot make room for these homeless individuals, these families, these Hawaiians. I cannot share specific programs that have helped me in my journey, but I can share with you this one single piece of information, this single fact, you never know which, or how many, of these homeless individuals could be the next Great, helping, caring, and supportive Social Worker. These homeless individuals are part of our society and we are responsible for doing everything we can. This state needs to do everything they can, just like the state and city has bent over backwards for this rail, we need to bend over backwards for the people of this island. Number One per Capita in the NATION. This is a failure by society, and society together needs to fix and alleviate this problem and it can start, right here. Right where it matters - the law.

Daniel Wright, BSWO 2019 Vice President, BSW Intern Helping Hands Hawaii

Charles M. Struwe, BBA
350 Sumner Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

Date: March 13, 2018

TO: The Honorable Senator Josh Green, Chair Senate Committee on Health Human Services
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Chair Senate Committee on Labor

SUBJECT: **HB 2019 – RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS**
Hearing on Wednesday, February 14, 2018, 3:15 p.m. Conference Room 016,
State Capitol

POSITION: **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF THE INTENT AND PURPOSE OF HB
2019 “A BILL RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS” AND SUPPORT FOR
THE TEXT IF, AND ONLY IF, IT IS AMENDED**

DISCLAIMER: I am homeless as defined in federal law
I am a researcher studying the homeless and their “ness”
I am an entrepreneur in the business of we homeless and in the business of
the our “ness”

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF THE INTENT AND PURPOSE

INTENT

As I read the Bill, the intent is to provide specific assistance to those of us who reside in Hawaii who are homeless.

PURPOSE

As stated in the Standing Committee Report of the subject matter Committees of record of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Health & Human Services and the Committee on Labor & Public Employment to whom it was referred first (SCR680), as well as in the Standing Committee Report of the House of Representatives “money” Committee, the Committee on Finance, to which it was referred second (SCR912):

“The purpose of this measure is to assist homeless individuals in finding employment and connect them with service providers that meet their needs by:

- (1) Establishing a three-year homeless employment grant program to be developed by [the Executive] to connect homeless individual with work opportunities, pay individuals for hours worked while in the grant program, and connect participants in the program with appropriate service providers; and

(2) Appropriating funds for the grant program.”

RATIONAL

I support the intent and purpose of this bill based upon my experiential knowledge as one of the homeless, my observation knowledge based upon my research and my empirical knowledge based on my work.

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT FOR THE TEXT IF, AND ONLY IF, IT IS AMENDED

As stated in the Standing Committee Report of the subject matter Committees of record of the House of Representatives (SCR680), amended the measure by:

“Requiring the Department of Human Services to develop and implement the ... program.”

The Standing Committee Report of the House of Representatives “money” Committee, the Committee on Finance, to which it was referred second (SCR912), did not amend the measure.

The fact is that the only Department of the Executive that has the expertise to develop and implement the program proposed in the bill is the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

This is clear from the reports of the United States Department of Labor (1994, 1997, 1998) and from the academic literature I’ve read, studied and am applying (see attached).

Therefore, please amend the bill to task the Department and Labor & Industrial Relations with the development and implementation the program.

CONCLUSION

For me, this bill is about:

Creating hope through employment for people who are homeless
(Marrone, 2005);

Understanding the connection between homelessness and (un)employment to break the cycle of homelessness
(Steen, Mackenzie, and McCormack, 2012);

Recognizing work as a priority in preventing and ending homelessness
(Shaheen and Rio, 2007; Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program, 2010);

Acknowledging the work lives of we homeless
(Wallace, 2017);

Understanding the workforce skills and development needs of we homeless
(Collins, 2016);

Knowing of the evolution of employment and training programs for the homeless
(Steele, 2013);

Career mapping for homeless job seekers
(Chronic Homeless Employment Technical Assistance Center, 2006);

Ending homelessness through employment and housing
(Chronic Homeless Employment Technical Assistance Center, 2008);

Using legal intervention to eliminate barriers on the road to employment
(The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, 2016);

We homeless and employment: Finding Work
(Mavromaras, King Macaities, Mallett, and Batterham, 2011);

Integrating employment, healthcare and housing to solve homelessness
Lange, 2016); and

Secure Jobs, Secure Homes, and Secure Families – a jobs pilot program of the
State of Massachusetts
(Meschede, Chaganti, and Revis, 2013)

Gary Shaheen and John Rio (2007), in the conclusion to their paper “Recognizing work as a priority in preventing or ending homeless” say it best (with my emphasis added):

“We have learned that people who are homeless, including those who are chronically homeless, can, with the right opportunities and support, achieve employment success. We know that when people are offered what they say they want, they can rise to the occasion and make great progress in escaping homelessness. We know that in addition to a safe and affordable home, they want to work, but jobs at a living wage have eluded them for a host of personal, program and systemic reasons. As employers look to nontraditional populations to address a thinning workforce, people who are presently homeless, given the right opportunities and supports, may be able to compete effectively for those jobs.

The challenge we face today is to look beyond the current face of disability and homelessness and beyond the walls of the disability services system that often results in parallels, not mainstream, services. We must widen our vision to include new partnerships and collaborations that can provide people who are homeless a chance

to do better. Work can become a strong bridge to recovery. By making work a priority, programs can help consumers advance from hopelessness and joblessness to a life as a valued member of a community, an employee with a future.”

In conclusion, please amend the bill to task the State of Hawaii’s Department of Labor & Industrial Relations to development and implementation the program and then pass the bill.

Thank you.

Employment and Training for America's Homeless: Best Practices Guide



Research and Evaluation Report Series 97-F

U.S. Department of Labor
Robert B. Reich, Secretary

Employment and Training Administration
Timothy Darnicle, Assistant Secretary

Office of Policy and Research
Gerard F. Fiala, Administrator

1997

Employment and Training For America's Homeless: Report on the Job Training for the Homeless Demonstration Project



U.S. Department of Labor
Robert B. Reich, Secretary

Employment and Training Administration
Doug Ross, Assistant Secretary

Office of Strategic Planning and Policy Development
Raymond J. Uhalde, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary

1994

Employment and Training for America's Homeless: Final Report on the Job Training for the Homeless Demonstration Program



Research and Evaluation Report Series 98-A

U.S. Department of Labor
Alexis M. Herman, Secretary

Employment and Training Administration
Raymond J. Uhalde, Acting Assistant Secretary

Office of Policy and Research
Gerard F. Fiala, Administrator

1998



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January 2005

Creating Hope Through Employment for People Who are Homeless or in Transitional Housing

Joe Marrone

Institute for Community Inclusion

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Homelessness and Unemployment: Understanding the Connection and Breaking the Cycle

Adam Steen, David Mackenzie and Darcy McCormack

September 2012

Swinburne Institute for Social Research
Swinburne University

Funded under the National Homelessness Research Project Agenda by the
Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community
Services and Indigenous Affairs

Contact details: Adam Steen, *c/-* Swinburne Institute for Social Research, Swinburne
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First author email: asteen@swin.edu.au

Recognizing Work as a Priority in Preventing or Ending Homelessness

Gary Shaheen · John Rio

Published online: 13 June 2007
© Springer Science+Business Media, LLC 2007

Abstract The literature speaks to the importance of employment in the lives of homeless individuals and shows how they can be assisted in job seeking (Long & Amendolia, 2003; Marrone, 2005; Quimby, Drake, & Becker, 2001; Rio, Russell, Dudasik, & Gravino, 1999; Rog & Holupka, 1998; Shaheen, Williams, & Dennis, 2003; Trutko, Barnow, Beck, Min, & Isbell, 1998). Some reports suggest it may be effective and worthwhile to offer employment at the earliest stages of engagement to help people who are homeless develop trust, motivation, and hope (Cook et al., 2001; Min, Wong, & Rothbard, 2004). Practitioners have historically focused on providing people with access to safe and affordable housing and supportive services, usually addressing employment later in the continuum. This practice-oriented report from the field proposes that employment should be offered as early as possible and maintains that facilitating employment is an unrecognized and underutilized practice for preventing and ending homelessness. The paper provides principles, practices, and strategies programs can use to make work a priority.

Keywords Homeless · Employment · Work · Housing

Making the Case for Work as a Priority

Efforts to prevent and end homelessness include a variety of strategies, including those focused upon providing people with access to safe and affordable housing and supportive services (Burt et al. 2004). A relatively small segment of the homeless

G. Shaheen (✉)

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J. Rio

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Work as a Priority: Access to Mainstream Employment Resources

(Issues Brief #3)

BACKGROUND

Many people with mental illnesses who are homeless want to work, and many have had jobs in the past. The work people do while homeless, such as collecting bottles or panhandling, requires its own sets of work skills, organization, and decision-making; however, these subsistence jobs are not jobs in the mainstream economy. For these individuals, it may be especially difficult to access the resources they need to connect with mainstream labor opportunities.

When people who are homeless and have a mental illness participate in rehabilitative programs, they may receive employment-related services such as job search and placement through their agency, but they are usually not connected with the mainstream Department of Labor (DOL) system, where other job seekers get help.

Because of this disconnect, work - one of life's most mainstream activities -- is sometimes contained in its own "treatment services silo." A job-seeker who is homeless and has a disability may be seen exclusively through the lens of his or her disability, rather than recognized as one of many job seekers who, for various reasons, need support to obtain and sustain a job and to escape poverty.

There is increasing recognition from the federal government on down, as well as from consumers and their advocates, that nothing helps people to be part of the mainstream so well as getting them involved in mainstream activities. A report by the Institute for Community Inclusion captures this shift in philosophy: "What was in the past solely the province of the federal-state vocational rehabilitation (VR) system and employers (i.e., employment issues affecting people with disabilities) must now be attended to in the context of other systems, including those projects funded under the auspices of the Department of Labor (DOL)..." (Marrone and Boeltzig 2005).

Accordingly, this Work as a Priority Issues Brief offers an introduction to mainstream training and employment services offered primarily through DOL, as well as those available through other sources. If we are to help people with psychiatric disabilities transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency and community inclusion, services contained in the "treatment services contained in the "treatment silo" will not suffice. Nor will mainstream employment without support services be sufficient to overcome all of the challenges encountered by people who are homeless. Rather, both must be available through a network of care that unites a range of stakeholders and an array of funding sources to help clients claim productive lives in the community.

This discussion of the need to address employment by increasing collaborations and by blending or braiding resources is a timely one. While the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has been a primary funding source for supportive services, including employment, for people who are homeless, the agency is now focusing its efforts on housing development in order to address the crisis in the lack of available affordable housing that keeps thousands of people who want to escape homelessness literally out in the cold. Throughout the country, local Continuums of Care (CofCs) are also opting to fund housing development over services-only projects, threatening the continued existence of employment programs that are showing positive results among people who are homeless. To respond to these changes, mainstream resources like DOL need to work closely with programs for persons who are homeless to find new, creative ways to engage and support people in work. This is essential not only to address issues that result from the loss of funding, but also because helping people - all people - get jobs is, simply, what the

CONTENTS

Background	1
Narrative	2
"No Wrong Door" or "You Can't Get There From Here!"	2
Improving Services to People who are Homeless	4
The "Ending Chronic Homelessness Initiative"	5
The Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program	6
Other Mainstream Resources	6
References	8

National Technical Assistance Center

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Virginia Commonwealth University, Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Workplace Supports and Job Retention

WORK LIVES OF HOMELESS MEN

ERIC WALLACE

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UNDERSTANDING THE WORKFORCE SKILLS AND DEVELOPMENT
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A Dissertation

by

RACHELE CHRISTINE COLLINS

Submitted to the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies of
Texas A&M University
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Chair of Committee,	Fredrick M. Nafukho
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	Beverly J. Irby
	Nancy Plankey-Videla
Head of Department,	Fredrick M. Nafukho

August 2016

Major subject: Educational Human Resource Development

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THE EVOLUTION OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR THE
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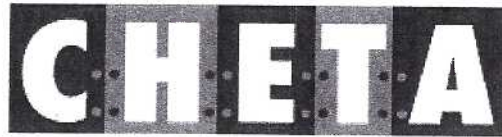
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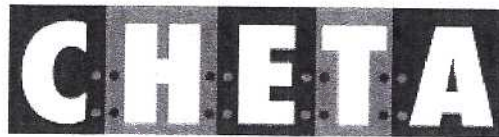
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a job and a home: a working combination

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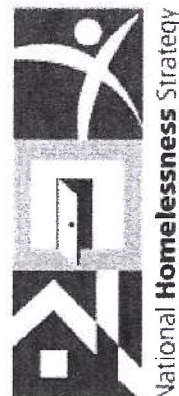
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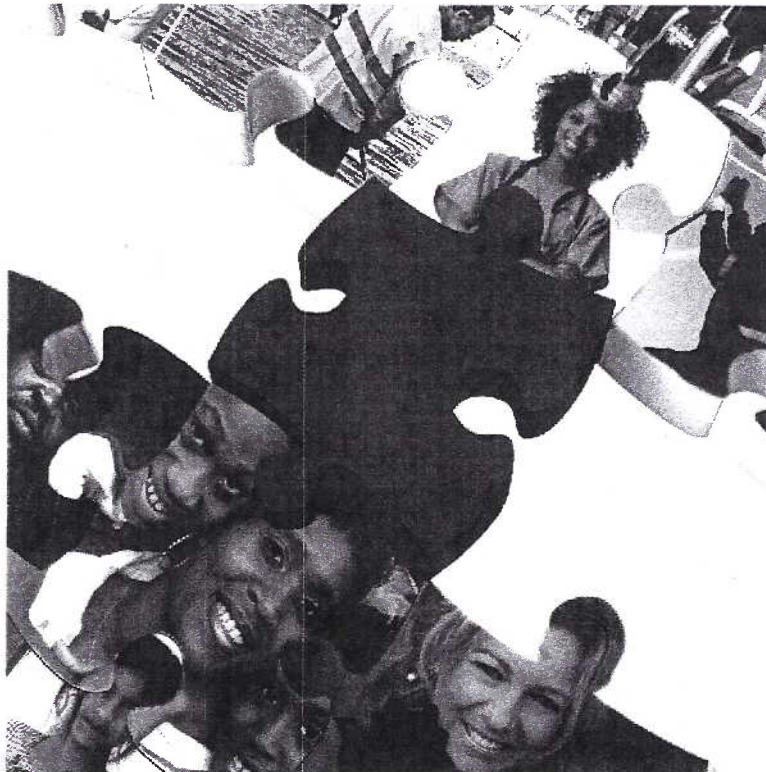
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Bridging the Gap between Homelessness and Employment

IASP

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

The Heller School
FOR SOCIAL POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Institute on Assets and Social Policy

Charles M. Struwe, BBA
350 Sumner Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

Date: March 13, 2018

TO: The Honorable Senator Josh Green, Chair Senate Committee on Health Human Services
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Chair Senate Committee on Labor

SUBJECT: **HB 2019 – RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS**
Hearing on Tuesday, February 14, 2018, 3:15 p.m. Conference Room 016, State Capitol

POSITION: **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF THE INTENT AND PURPOSE OF HB 2019 “A BILL RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS” AND SUPPORT FOR THE TEXT IF, AND ONLY IF, IT IS AMENDED**

DISCLAIMER: I am homeless as defined in federal law
I am a researcher studying the homeless and their “ness”
I am an entrepreneur in the business of we homeless and in the business of business of the our “ness”

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF THE INTENT AND PURPOSE

INTENT

As I read the Bill, the intent is to provide specific assistance to those of us who reside in Hawaii who are homeless.

PURPOSE

As stated in the Standing Committee Report of the subject matter Committees of record of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Health & Human Services and the Committee on Labor & Public Employment to whom it was referred first (SCR680), as well as in the Standing Committee Report of the House of Representatives “money” Committee, the Committee on Finance, to which it was referred second (SCR912):

“The purpose of this measure is to assist homeless individuals in finding employment and connect them with service providers that meet their needs by:

- (1) Establishing a three-year homeless employment grant program to be developed by [the Executive] to connect homeless individual with work opportunities, pay individuals for hours worked while in the grant program, and connect participants in the program with appropriate service providers; and

Understanding the workforce skills and development needs of we homeless
(Collins, 2016);

Knowing of the evolution of employment and training programs for the homeless
(Steele, 2013);

Career mapping for homeless job seekers
(Chronic Homeless Employment Technical Assistance Center, 2006);

Ending homelessness through employment and housing
(Chronic Homeless Employment Technical Assistance Center, 2008);

Using legal intervention to eliminate barriers on the road to employment
(The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, 2016);

We homeless and employment: Finding Work
(Mavromaras, King Macaities, Mallett, and Batterham, 2011);

Integrating employment, healthcare and housing to solve homelessness
Lange, 2016); and

Secure Jobs, Secure Homes, and Secure Families – a jobs pilot program of the
State of Massachusetts
(Meschede, Chaganti, and Revis, 2013)

Gary Shaheen and John Rio (2007), in the conclusion to their paper “Recognizing work as a priority in preventing or ending homeless” say it best (with my emphasis):

“We have learned that people who are homeless, including those who are chronically homeless, can, with the right opportunities and support, achieve employment success. We know that when people are offered what they say they want, they can rise to the occasion and make great progress in escaping homelessness. We know that in addition to a safe and affordable home, they want to work, but jobs at a living wage have eluded them for a host of personal, program and systemic reasons. As employers look to nontraditional populations to address a thinning workforce, people who are presently homeless, given the right opportunities and supports, may be able to compete effectively for those jobs.

The challenge we face today is to look beyond the current face of disability and homelessness and beyond the walls of the disability services system that often results in parallels, not mainstream, services. We must widen our vision to include new partnerships and collaborations that can provide people who are homeless a chance to do better. Work can become a strong bridge to recovery. By making work a priority, programs can help consumers advance from hopelessness and joblessness to a life as a valued member of a community, an employee with a future.”



Employment and Training for America's Homeless: Best Practices Guide

Research and Evaluation Report Series 97-F

U.S. Department of Labor
Robert B. Reich, Secretary

Employment and Training Administration
Timothy Darnicle, Assistant Secretary

Office of Policy and Research
Gerard F. Fiala, Administrator

1997

Employment and Training For America's Homeless: Report on the Job Training for the Homeless Demonstration Project



U.S. Department of Labor
Robert B. Reich, Secretary

Employment and Training Administration
Doug Ross, Assistant Secretary

Office of Strategic Planning and Policy Development
Raymond J. Uhalde, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary

1994

Employment and Training for America's Homeless: Final Report on the Job Training for the Homeless Demonstration Program



Research and Evaluation Report Series 98-A

U.S. Department of Labor
Alexis M. Herman, Secretary

Employment and Training Administration
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Office of Policy and Research
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1998



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January 2005

Creating Hope Through Employment for People Who are Homeless or in Transitional Housing

Joe Marrone

Institute for Community Inclusion

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Homelessness and Unemployment: Understanding the Connection and Breaking the Cycle

Adam Steen, David Mackenzie and Darcy McCormack

September 2012

Swinburne Institute for Social Research
Swinburne University

Funded under the National Homelessness Research Project Agenda by the
Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community
Services and Indigenous Affairs

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Recognizing Work as a Priority in Preventing or Ending Homelessness

Gary Shaheen · John Rio

Published online: 13 June 2007
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Abstract The literature speaks to the importance of employment in the lives of homeless individuals and shows how they can be assisted in job seeking (Long & Amendolia, 2003; Marrone, 2005; Quimby, Drake, & Becker, 2001; Rio, Russell, Dudasik, & Gravino, 1999; Rog & Holupka, 1998; Shaheen, Williams, & Dennis, 2003; Trutko, Barnow, Beck, Min, & Isbell, 1998). Some reports suggest it may be effective and worthwhile to offer employment at the earliest stages of engagement to help people who are homeless develop trust, motivation, and hope (Cook et al., 2001; Min, Wong, & Rothbard, 2004). Practitioners have historically focused on providing people with access to safe and affordable housing and supportive services, usually addressing employment later in the continuum. This practice-oriented report from the field proposes that employment should be offered as early as possible and maintains that facilitating employment is an unrecognized and underutilized practice for preventing and ending homelessness. The paper provides principles, practices, and strategies programs can use to make work a priority.

Keywords Homeless · Employment · Work · Housing

Making the Case for Work as a Priority

Efforts to prevent and end homelessness include a variety of strategies, including those focused upon providing people with access to safe and affordable housing and supportive services (Burt et al. 2004). A relatively small segment of the homeless

G. Shaheen (✉)

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Work as a Priority: Access to Mainstream Employment Resources

(Issues Brief #3)

BACKGROUND

Many people with mental illnesses who are homeless want to work, and many have had jobs in the past. The work people do while homeless, such as collecting bottles or panhandling, requires its own sets of work skills, organization, and decision-making; however, these subsistence jobs are not jobs in the mainstream economy. For these individuals, it may be especially difficult to access the resources they need to connect with mainstream labor opportunities.

When people who are homeless and have a mental illness participate in rehabilitative programs, they may receive employment-related services such as job search and placement through their agency, but they are usually not connected with the mainstream Department of Labor (DOL) system, where other job seekers get help.

Because of this disconnect, work - one of life's most mainstream activities -- is sometimes contained in its own "treatment services silo." A job-seeker who is homeless and has a disability may be seen exclusively through the lens of his or her disability, rather than recognized as one of many job seekers who, for various reasons, need support to obtain and sustain a job and to escape poverty.

There is increasing recognition from the federal government on down, as well as from consumers and their advocates, that nothing helps people to be part of the mainstream so well as getting them involved in mainstream activities. A report by the Institute for Community Inclusion captures this shift in philosophy: "What was in the past solely the province of the federal-state vocational rehabilitation (VR) system and employers (i.e., employment issues affecting people with disabilities) must now be attended to in the context of other systems, including those projects funded under the auspices of the Department of Labor (DOL)..." (Marrone and Boeltzig 2005).

Accordingly, this Work as a Priority Issues Brief offers an introduction to mainstream training and employment services offered primarily through DOL, as well as those available through other sources. If we are to help people with psychiatric disabilities transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency and community inclusion, services contained in the "treatment services contained in the "treatment silo" will not suffice. Nor will mainstream employment without support services be sufficient to overcome all of the challenges encountered by people who are homeless. Rather, both must be available through a network of care that unites a range of stakeholders and an array of funding sources to help clients claim productive lives in the community.

This discussion of the need to address employment by increasing collaborations and by blending or braiding resources is a timely one. While the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has been a primary funding source for supportive services, including employment, for people who are homeless, the agency is now focusing its efforts on housing development in order to address the crisis in the lack of available affordable housing that keeps thousands of people who want to escape homelessness literally out in the cold. Throughout the country, local Continuums of Care (CofCs) are also opting to fund housing development over services-only projects, threatening the continued existence of employment programs that are showing positive results among people who are homeless. To respond to these changes, mainstream resources like DOL need to work closely with programs for persons who are homeless to find new, creative ways to engage and support people in work. This is essential not only to address issues that result from the loss of funding, but also because helping people - all people - get jobs is, simply, what the

CONTENTS

Background 1
Narrative 2
 "No Wrong Door" or "You Can't Get There From Here!" 2
 Improving Services to People who are Homeless 4
 The "Ending Chronic Homelessness Initiative" 5
 The Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program 6
 Other Mainstream Resources 6
References 8

National Technical Assistance Center

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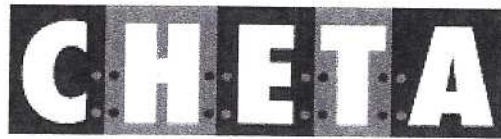
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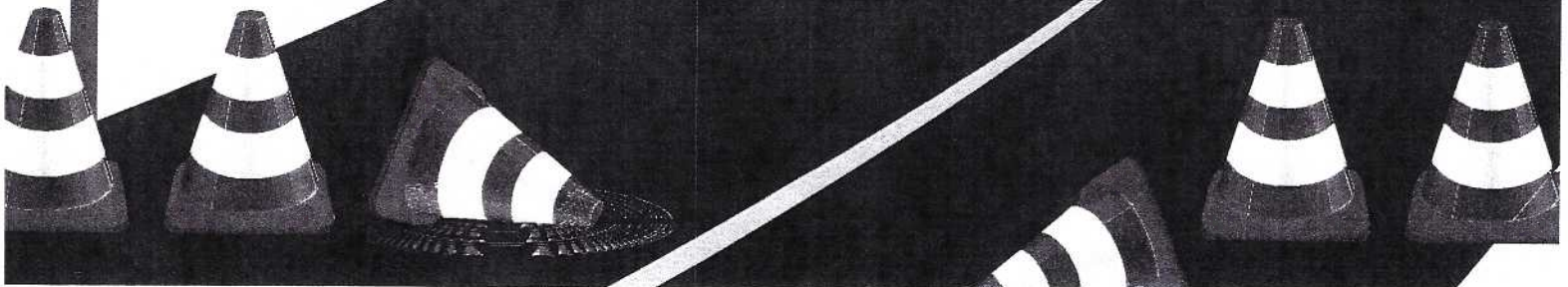
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