Rapid Re-Housing in the City of Chicago: 2014 to 2017

Findings & Recommendations

About the Report

*Rapid Re-Housing in the City of Chicago: 2014 to 2017* is the first comprehensive review of Rapid Re-housing (RRH) in Chicago across all 3 major funding streams: Continuum of Care (CoC), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF). The report combines RRH history, provider interviews, and HMIS data analysis to better understand the landscape of RRH programs in Chicago, gauge performance, and recommend improvements. Despite being one of the major models used to respond to homelessness in Chicago, misinformation persists regarding RRH and its effectiveness. The report dispels these myths and encourages the continued growth of RRH in Chicago.

Demographics & Outcomes

While the average RRH head of household is male, single, black or African-American, 47 years old, and a veteran, demographics vary significantly across funding stream.

Outcomes

- **73%** exited to permanent housing from project
- **18%** returned to homelessness
- **46** Average days from project enrollment to move into housing

The single factor most correlated with better outcome performance was whether a household moved into housing as part of RRH enrollment. Such households consistently had greater increases in income, higher rates of exit to permanent housing, and lower rates of return to homelessness.

Recommendations

The report calls for several actions to improve RRH in Chicago, including the following:

- Expand landlord engagement practices
- Standardize policies and procedures across funding sources
- Expand peer-to-peer support between service providers
- Increase RRH availability through policy, advocacy, and communications
- Refine and communicate best practices for RRH providers and case managers