

BOSCOC Transitional Housing Program Analysis - Provider Survey

BOSCOC Transitional Housing Program Analysis Introduction

The Ohio Balance of State Continuum of Care's (BOSCOC) is committed to analyzing both Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (COC) and Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) funded transitional housing programs along with those that are privately funded. Consistent with the BOSCOC's commitment to build homeless program capacity and prepare programs for Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act implementation, the BOSCOC has set a goal to study transitional housing programs.

Definitions:

- Persons are considered homeless only when they reside in one of the three places described: 1. places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, or abandoned buildings, 2. an emergency shelter, 3. transitional housing for homeless persons (having first come from places not meant for human habitation or emergency shelter), ** If persons are in one of these three places, but most recently spent less than 30 days in a jail or institution, they qualify as coming from one of these three categories. 4. evicted within a week from a private dwelling unit with no subsequent residence identified and lacks the resources and support network needed to obtain housing, 5. discharge within a week from an institution in which the persons have been a resident for 30 or more consecutive days and no subsequent residence has been identified and they lack the resources and support networks needed.
- Transitional housing is a component of supportive housing that facilitates the movement of homeless individuals and families to permanent housing. Homeless persons may live in transitional housing for up to 24 months and receive supportive services such as childcare, job training, and home furnishings that help them live more independently.
- For the purposes of this study, program will be defined as the transitional housing "program" listed on the Housing Inventory Chart (HIC).
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is a data collection software designed to capture information over time on the characteristics of persons experiencing homelessness.

Objectives:

- Evaluate federal, state, and privately funded transitional housing program practices.
- Survey the practices that transitional housing programs have implemented.
- Provide meaningful transitional housing program performance comparisons.
- Analyze survey data in order to make recommendations for transitional housing model changes to best meet HEARTH performance benchmarks.
- Provide feedback, technical assistance and capacity building support to transitional housing providers.
- Develop benchmarks to measure transitional housing program effectiveness.

Approaches:

- Transitional housing (TH) program providers will be requested to complete BOSCOC Transitional Housing Program Analysis Survey.
- TH committee members will follow-up with providers that have not completed the analysis within the specified time to collect data.
- TH committee members will collect calendar year 2011 Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data, bed inventory, financial and other information from existing sources.
- TH committee members will complete interviews with TH program staff as warranted to collect additional or clarify data.

Transitional housing providers are requested to complete this analysis survey as accurately and completely as possible to provide a true description of their program. Transitional housing providers with more than one transitional housing program, are asked to complete one survey for each program listed on the Housing Inventory Chart (HIC). The BOSCOC understands that some providers partner and collaborate on projects, please check with your partners to ensure that only one agency claims each project.

Any questions regarding this survey can be directed to Jonda Clemings at jondaclemings@cohhio.org.

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*** 1. Please enter the following contact information for the person completing this survey.**

Name:

Agency:

Address:

Address 2:

City/Town:

ZIP:

Email Address:

*** 2. What is the name of your transitional housing program? Please use the project's name as listed on the Housing Inventory Count (HIC) Chart. Transitional housing providers with more than one transitional housing program, are asked to complete one survey for each program listed on the HIC.**

3. How long has this specific transitional housing program been in existence? Please check only one option.

- Less than 1 year
- More than 1 year - less than 5 years
- 5 - 10 years
- 11 - 15 years
- 16 - 20 years
- More than 20 years

Transitional Housing Model & Housing Type

Transitional housing programs adopt a variety of housing configurations. One way to describe the assorted transitional housing structures is through whether an individual/family maintains the housing after program conclusion or if the household must move at exit.

HUD recognizes a number of housing structures in which participants are housed. The housing type options and definitions are listed below.

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***4. Please check which program site configuration type reflects your transitional housing program. Please check only one option.**

- Single site, single building - housing units are at one site, in a single structure - facility based
- Single site, multiple buildings - housing units are at one site, in multiple structures (e.g., single apartment complex with multiple buildings and program units in two or more buildings) - facility based
- Multiple sites - housing units are at multiple sites - scattered-site housing - voucher based

5. If you are a single site, single building or single site, multiple buildings transitional housing program, do you own, rent or master lease the building where your participants are living - you may check more than one option?

- Own
- Rent
- Master lease

6. Is your program a transition in place model - a program designed to allow the household to retain the apartment at exit that they occupied during their time in the program. Please check only one model that best reflects your transitional housing program.

- Yes, we are a transition in place model, our participants may retain the apartment at exit that they occupied during their time in the TH program
- No, our participants must move to another location after completion of transitional program.

7. Which housing types best reflect this transitional housing program - you may select more than one option.

- Mass shelter/barracks. Multiple individuals and/or family households sleep in a large room with multiple beds.
- Dormitory/hotel/motel. Most individuals and/or families share small to medium sized sleeping rooms or have private sleeping rooms. Persons may or may not share a common kitchen, common bathrooms, or both.
- Shared housing. Most individuals and/or families reside in one or more shared housing units that house up to 8 individuals or 4 families. Each unit includes a kitchen and bath. Each family generally has a private sleeping room, though more than one individual may share sleeping space.
- Single Room Occupancy (SRO) units. Most individuals reside in a private unit with a sleeping/living room intended for one occupant that contains no sanitary facilities or food preparation facilities, or contains either, but not both, types of facilities.
- Single apartment (non-SRO) units. Most individuals and/or families reside in a self-contained apartment intended for one individual or family household that includes a private kitchen and bath.
- Single homes/townhouses/duplexes. Most individuals and/or families reside in a self-contained home/townhouse/duplex intended for one individual or family household.
- Not applicable: non-residential program. The program does not offer residential services to clients.

Accepted or Declined Applicants

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Transitional housing programs typically cannot meet the needs of every referred person and household. Please provide information regarding the proportion of referrals that the program accepts, along with information about referrals that are declined.

8. What percent of referrals are screened and determined to be eligible (e.g., meets your target population(s), income guidelines, eligibility standards) for this transitional housing program. Please check only one option.

- 0-20%
- 21-40%
- 41-60%
- 61-80%
- 81-100%

9. What percent of households determined to be eligible (e.g., meets your target population (s), income guidelines, eligibility standard(s), etc.) are subsequently admitted to your TH program? Please check only one option.

- 0-20%
- 21-40%
- 41-60%
- 61-80%
- 81-100%

10. Are you tracking referrals that you decline? ** A declined referral would be a household presenting to your program that is requesting assistance and you are not able to assist that household. Please check only one option.

- Yes
- No

11. If you are tracking persons/households that are declined from your transitional housing program, how many households did you decline in calendar year 2011? ** A declined referral would be a household presenting to your program that is requesting assistance and you are not able to assist that household.

Number of households declined

Program Eligibility Criteria, Targeting, and Population Characteristics.

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Some transitional housing programs specialize in who they serve, including hiring and training staff to serve clients with specific needs or characteristics. We are interested in understanding which criteria are acceptable to programs and which are likely to result in prospective participants being denied. Please check which criteria, targeting and population characteristics are required for eligibility into your transitional housing program.

12. Housing Status - For each housing condition listed below, identify whether program applicants who are experiencing the condition at time of application are "not eligible" or "eligible" for the program. Select "target/priority" for any eligibility criteria that are further used to target potential program participants or prioritize applicants for program participation. Please select a drop-down response for both eligibility and target/priority for each row.

	Program Applicants - Eligibility	Program Applicants - Target/Priority
Residing in places not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground, etc.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Residing in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including hotels and motels paid for by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals or by charitable organizations, congregate shelters, and transitional housing for homeless persons)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Residing in a hospital or other institution where the person resided for 90 days or less, if the person was sleeping in an emergency shelter or other place not meant for human habitation (cars, parks, streets, etc.) immediately prior to entry into the hospital or institution	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions AND	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

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have no subsequent residence identified and lack the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing

Imminently losing their primary nighttime residence (e.g., own apartment or doubled-up living situation) within 14 days AND have no subsequent residence identified and lack the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing

Unaccompanied youth, under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth who are defined as homeless under other federal statutes

Housed and at-risk of homelessness, but are not in one of the categories above

No specific housing situation is required at application to be eligible for the program

Other housing/homeless situation not listed above

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13. Income/Non-Cash Benefits: For each income amount category and income/non-cash benefit status listed below, identify whether applicants in each category at time of application are “not eligible” or “eligible” for the program. Select “target/priority” for any eligibility criteria that are further used to target potential program participants or prioritize applicants for program participation. Please select a drop-down response for both eligibility and target/priority for each row.

	Program Applicants - Eligibility	Program Applicants - Target/Priority
Zero income at entry	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
At or below 35% Area Median Income	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
At or below 50% Area Median Income	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
At or below 80% Area Median Income	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
No minimum/maximum income requirement	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Currently employed	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Not employed	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Recently employed	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Able to obtain employment	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Currently receiving public assistance (cash/non-cash benefits)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Not currently receiving public assistance (cash/non-cash benefits)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Currently receiving SSI/SSDI	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Other income/non-cash benefit conditions not listed above (describe)

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14. Disability: For each disability condition listed below, identify whether applicants (head of household) in each category at time of application are “not eligible” or “eligible” for the program. Select “target/priority” for any eligibility criteria that are further used to target potential program participants or prioritize applicants for program participation. Please select a drop-down response for both eligibility and target/priority for each row.

	Program Applicants - Eligibility	Program Applicants - Target/Priority
Not disabled	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Physical disability	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Developmental disability	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Chronic health condition	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Mental illness	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Severe/persistent mental illness	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Substance abuse	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Severe/persistent substance abuse	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
HIV/AIDS	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Condition expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration and substantially impairs ability to live independently	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

15. For the disability conditions listed above, identify whether applicants are receiving treatment/services for those conditions. Please select a drop-down response for both eligibility and target/priority for each row.

	Program Applicants - Eligibility	Program Applicants - Target/Priority
Not receiving services or treatment for condition(s)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Receiving services or treatment for condition(s)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Complying with services/treatment	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Not complying with services/treatment	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

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***16. Please check which additional eligibility criteria must applicants meet to be eligible for this TH program. Please select a drop-down response for both eligibility and target/priority for each row.**

	Program Applicants - Eligibility	Program Applicants - Target/Priority
18 years of age or older	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Ability to participate in developing and carrying out an appropriate treatment plan	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Felony criminal record (other than sexual offender)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
History of victimization - domestic or sexual violence	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Households with children	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Households without children	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Female head of household - for either housing with or without children	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Male head of household - for either housing with or without children	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Less than 3 or more evictions	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Poor rental history, with 3 or more evictions	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Reside in city/county where program is located for at least 30 or more days prior to program entry	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Sexual offender criminal record	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Sobriety - clean and sober at program entry	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Sobriety - clean and sober for 30 days or more at program entry	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Veterans status	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Other (please specify)	<input type="text"/>	

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17. Referral Source: Identify referral sources for which the program has established a priority when determining applicant eligibility and potential program admission. Please select a drop-down response for both eligibility and target/priority for each row.

	Program Applicants - Eligibility	Program Applicants - Target/Priority
Community information/referral service (e.g., 2-1-1, crisis hotline, info/referral line, etc.)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Criminal justice system (including law enforcement)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Domestic violence victim agency	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Drop-in center, soup kitchen, meal programs	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Emergency shelter	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Faith-based community	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Family, friends	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Foster care home or foster care group home	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Homelessness prevention	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Hospital or other residential non-psychiatric medical facility	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Jail, prison, of juvenile detention facility	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Long-term care facility or nursing home	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Mental health services/treatment provider	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Psychiatric hospital or other psychiatric facility	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Residential provider program or halfway house with no homeless criteria	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Safe Haven	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Street outreach	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Substance abuse services/treatment provider	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Other (please identify)

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Average Targeted/Planned Length of Stay

HUD rules allow transitional housing programs to offer stays up to 24 months. A homeless individual or family may remain in transitional housing for a period longer than 24 months, if permanent housing for the individual or family has not been located or if the individual or family requires additional time to prepare for independent living. However, some transitional housing programs have set a shorter maximum length of stay. Please check which targeted/planned length of stay best reflects your program.

18. What is the targeted/planned length of stay that this transitional housing program is designed for? Please check only one option.

- Less than or equal to 30 days
- 31 to 60 days (1-2 months)
- 61 to 180 days (2-6 months)
- 181 to 365 days (7-12 months)
- 366 to 730 days (12-24 months)
- More than 731 days (more than 2 years)

19. Does this TH program terminate assistance at 24 months regardless of permanent housing availability option? Please check only one option.

- Yes - TH program terminates assistance of all participants at the 24 month period of time regardless of other housing availability
- No - TH program continues to work with participants regardless of time frame to assist person to secure housing

Supportive Services

The Supportive Housing Program is designed to promote the development of housing and supportive services to assist homeless persons transition from the streets and shelters to permanent housing and self-sufficiency. The supportive services may be provided by the organization managing the housing or coordinated by them and provided by other public or private agencies. According to HUD policy, transitional housing program may impose supportive service requirements as part of program enrollment as long as participants are made aware of that requirement. Please check which services are required for your program's participants.

Qualifier - programs must follow Fair Housing Law and Ohio Tenant-Landlord Law.

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20. Please check which supportive service(s) are required for this transitional housing program - please note the services can be provided by your transitional housing program or another entity. Please check only one option per criteria (row).

	Required - by TH provider agency	Required - by another community agency
Outreach	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Case management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Life skills (outside of case management)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alcohol and drug abuse services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mental health services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AIDS-related services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other health care services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Housing placement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Employment assistance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Transitional Housing Program Termination Policies

Many transitional housing programs have policies regarding when a participant can/will be terminated for violating program guidelines. Please check below which violations would lead to immediate TH program termination, progressive consequences that may lead to termination, or is not applicable for this project.

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21. Are participants discharged from this transitional housing program for violating any of the following rules, regulations, and/or policies. Please check only one option per issue (row).

	Participant would automatically be terminated/discharge from program - program has a zero tolerance for this issue	Participant would receive progressive consequences for violating this rule, regulation or policy.	Not applicable for this TH program
Destroying agency or landlord property	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Having a weapon in the unit or on the premises	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Noncompliance with supportive services requirements	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Persistent non-payment of rent, fees	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Using alcohol while in the program	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Using alcohol while in the unit or on the premises	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Using drugs or substances while in the program	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Using drugs or substances while in the unit or on the premises	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Verbal abuse, physical abuse, and/or violence against staff and/or other tenants	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please specify)	<input type="text"/>		

Transitional Housing Program Requirements

Given that transitional housing programs requirements vary, please check which requirement(s) are included in this program's operation.

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22. Does this transitional housing program require any of the following? Please check only those options required by your program

Yes - this transitional housing program requires

Landlord-tenant lease agreement	<input type="radio"/>
Participant has key to their own room/apartment	<input type="radio"/>
Participant pay back rent once their income/benefits begin	<input type="radio"/>
Participant saving a percentage of their income	<input type="radio"/>
Participation in a service, treatment, and/or housing plan	<input type="radio"/>
Program participation written agreement	<input type="radio"/>
Representative payee	<input type="radio"/>

Re-thinking Transitional Housing and Additional Comments

One TH analysis objective is to recommend actions that providers can complete to best meet HEARTH Act benchmarks. To make informed recommendations, the BOSCOG Advisory and Steering Committees are interested in knowing what changes have been considered by the agency and local continuum to better align this TH program to HEARTH guidelines.

23. Has your organization or local continuum considered making any changes to this transitional housing program to align it with the HEARTH Act?

- Yes
- No

24. What changes are you considering for this transitional housing program - please include discussions held with local Continuum of Care, needs assessment/gaps analysis completed, anticipated time frame to complete changes, anticipated outcomes, etc.

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25. What capacity building and/or technical assistance support would be helpful to your agency/continuum to make these changes, if any?

26. Are there any additional comments or information that you would like to share about your transitional housing program or information that you would like to expand upon from a previous question?