



Mid-America (HHS Region 7)

**MHTTC**

Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network

Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

# Permanent Supportive Housing Session 3: Iowa Perspectives on Permanent Supportive Housing

Mogens Bill Baerentzen, PhD, CRC, LMHP  
University of Nebraska Medical Center  
Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska  
Mid-America Mental Health Technology Transfer Center



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At the time of this presentation, Tom Coderre served as Acting Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The opinions expressed herein are the views of the speakers and do not reflect the official position of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), or SAMHSA. No official support or endorsement of DHHS, SAMHSA, for the opinions described in this presentation is intended or should be inferred.

This work is supported by grants under Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) No. SM-18-015 from the DHHS, SAMHSA.

The MHTTC Network uses affirming, respectful and recovery-oriented language in all activities. That language is:

STRENGTHS-BASED  
AND HOPEFUL

INCLUSIVE AND  
ACCEPTING OF  
DIVERSE CULTURES,  
GENDERS,  
PERSPECTIVES,  
AND EXPERIENCES

HEALING-CENTERED/  
TRAUMA-RESPONSIVE

INVITING TO INDIVIDUALS  
PARTICIPATING IN THEIR  
OWN JOURNEYS

PERSON-FIRST AND  
FREE OF LABELS

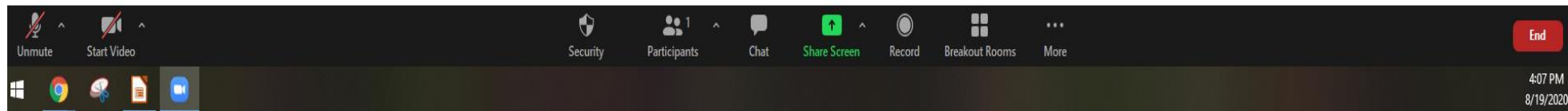
NON-JUDGMENTAL AND  
AVOIDING ASSUMPTIONS

RESPECTFUL, CLEAR  
AND UNDERSTANDABLE

CONSISTENT WITH  
OUR ACTIONS,  
POLICIES, AND PRODUCTS

# Announcements

- This webinar is being recorded
- All attendees are automatically muted.
- Submit questions via the chat box at any time during the webinar.
- The slides are available in the chat box.





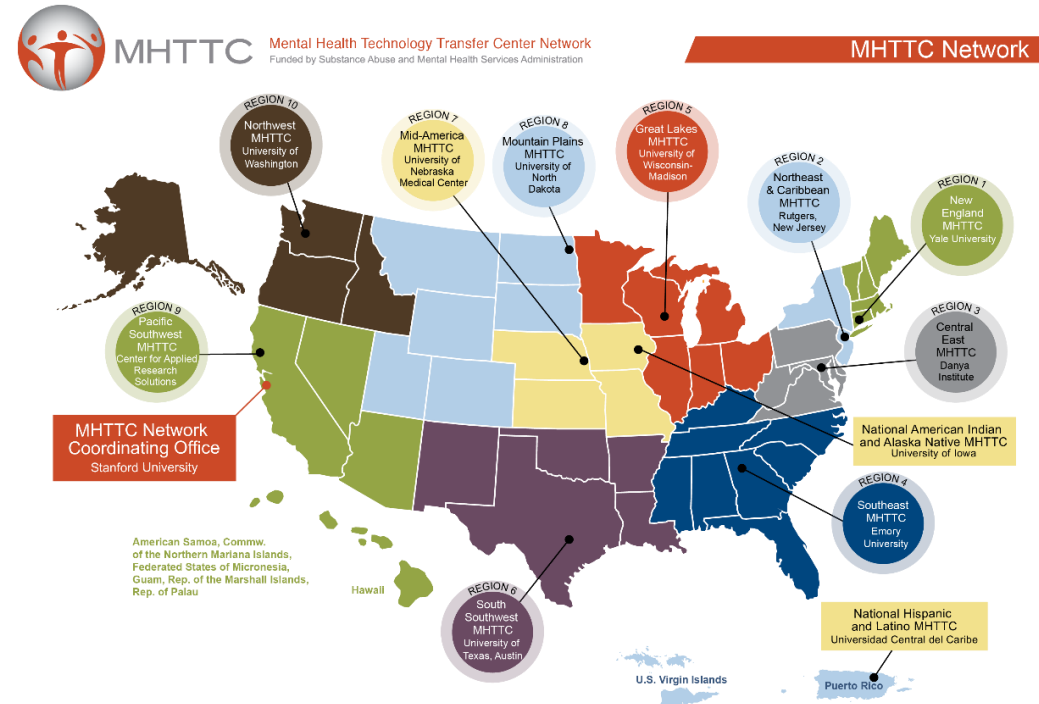
# Evaluation

- At the end of this session, you will be asked to complete a brief evaluation.
- Because this event is federally funded, we are required to ask about participants' satisfaction with our services.
- To maintain our funding, we are required to get 80% participation.
- We greatly value your feedback and participation in the survey!!

# Mid-America Mental Health Technology Transfer Center

Established to increase utilization of evidence-based mental health practices.

- Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, and Kansas.
- Free training and technical assistance.
- SAMHSA grant awarded to the Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska at University of Nebraska Medical Center.  
(5 years, \$3.7 million, grant number: H79SM081769)





**Marissa Eyanson** serves as the Division Administrator of Community Mental Health and Disability Services (MHDS) for the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS). In this role, she leads teams responsible for coordinating and assuring that all Iowans have access to high quality services and supports across the full spectrum of mental health and disability related needs. Marissa is a life-long small-town Iowan and graduate of Iowa State University. Her background and experience bring a unique ability to pivot perspectives from provider to payer to regulator. Marissa's first job was as a direct support professional in an Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disability (ICF/ID), and she has dedicated her career to working in the mental health and disability services field in Iowa.



**Cynthia Latcham** is the Executive Director at Anawim Housing, a nonprofit that focuses on implementing permanent supportive housing programs using evidence-based principles of housing first, harm reduction, and trauma-informed care. The programs and services offered through Anawim Housing have existed for over 20 years, with Cynthia leading the team since 2017.



**Karen Hyatt** is the Emergency Mental Health Specialist for the Division of Community Mental Health and Disability Services within the Department of Human Services and serves as the Disaster Behavioral Health Coordinator for the state. She has work emphasis in crisis stabilization services, peer support and the Office of Consumer Affairs.



**Maria Walker** is the Program Planner for Polk County Health Services. She supports, plans, implements and oversees contract management for employment and day services. She provides staff support for the Polk Regional Adult Advisory Committee and leads provider relations and provider contracting. Walker came to PCHS in August 1998 from Systems Unlimited, a provider agency in Iowa City and was the Employment Director. She has a Bachelor of Science in Rehabilitation Administration from Drake University.



**Courtney Guntly** is the Iowa Balance of State Continuum of Care Director. In this role, she supports HUD-funded housing programs in their efforts to end homelessness across Iowa's 96 counties making up the Balance of State, all while working strategically with partners to achieve this vision. Courtney holds a Master of Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis and a bachelor's degree in social work from Luther College.



**Terri Rosonke** is the Housing Programs Manager within the Iowa Finance Authority's Housing Programs Division. She is responsible for managing the State Housing Trust Fund and leads the agency's Olmstead compliance, permanent supportive housing, and disaster recovery initiatives.

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***Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness  
PATH***

**Division of Mental Health and Disability Services, Community**

**Karen Hyatt - Emergency Mental Health Specialist**

**[Khyatt@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:Khyatt@dhs.state.ia.us)**

**515-281-3128**

# The Goal of PATH

To reduce or eliminate homelessness for individuals with serious mental illnesses or co-occurring serious mental illness and substance use disorders, who are experiencing homelessness or are at imminent risk of becoming homeless.

PATH funds are used to provide an array of services, including street outreach, case management, and services not supported by mainstream mental health programs.



# Eligible services through PATH

Outreach

Screening and diagnostic treatment

Habilitation and rehabilitation

Community mental health

Alcohol and drug treatment

Case management services

Referral for health services, job training, educational services

Housing services including:

- planning for housing
- technical assistance in applying for housing assistance
- improvement in the coordination of housing services
- security deposits
- costs associated with matching eligible individuals who are experiencing homelessness with appropriate housing situations

# PATH Providers 2021

Abbe Center ~ Cedar Rapids and Iowa City

Black Hawk Grundy MHC ~ Waterloo

Heartland Family Service ~ Council Bluffs

Hillcrest Services ~ Dubuque

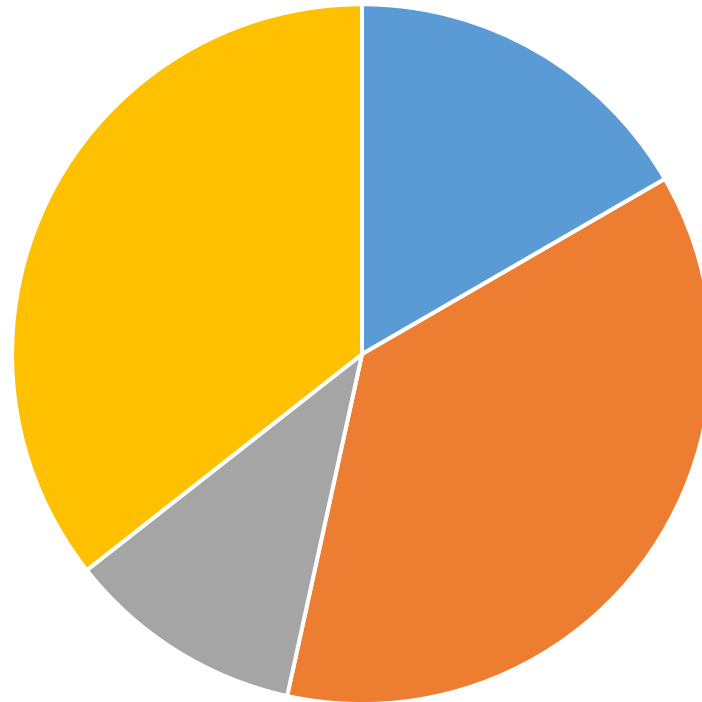
Institute for Community Alliance ~ Statewide

Primary Health Care ~ Des Moines

Vera French ~ Davenport

# Prior Living Situation of PATH Clients

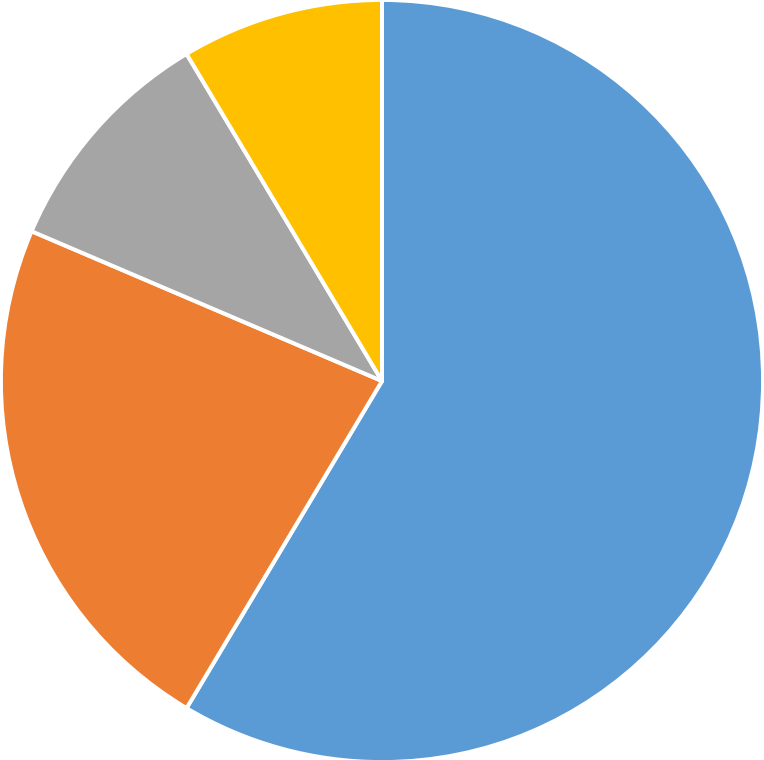
Iowa



■ Unsheltered ■ Sheltered ■ Institution ■ Permanent ■ Other

# Age of PATH Client

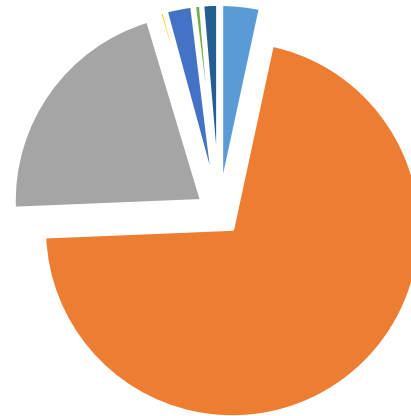
Age



■ 17< ■ 18-23 ■ 24-30 ■ 31-40 ■ 41-50 ■ 51-61

# Race of PATH Client

Race



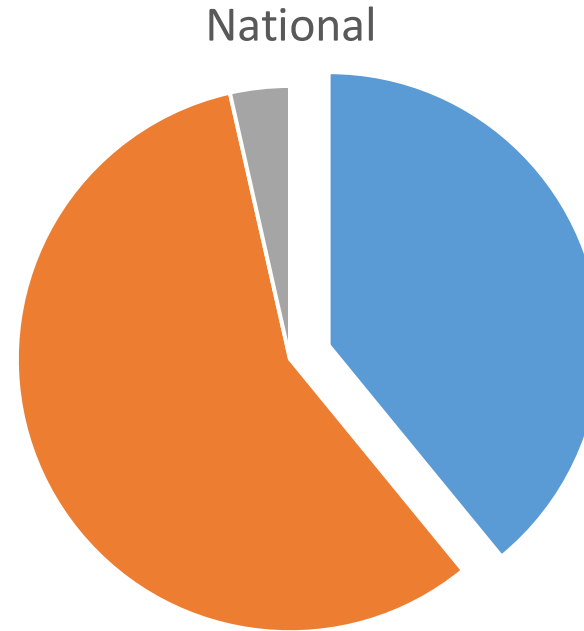
- Hispanic
- Black, African American
- American Indian
- Other
- White
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander



# Chronic Homelessness



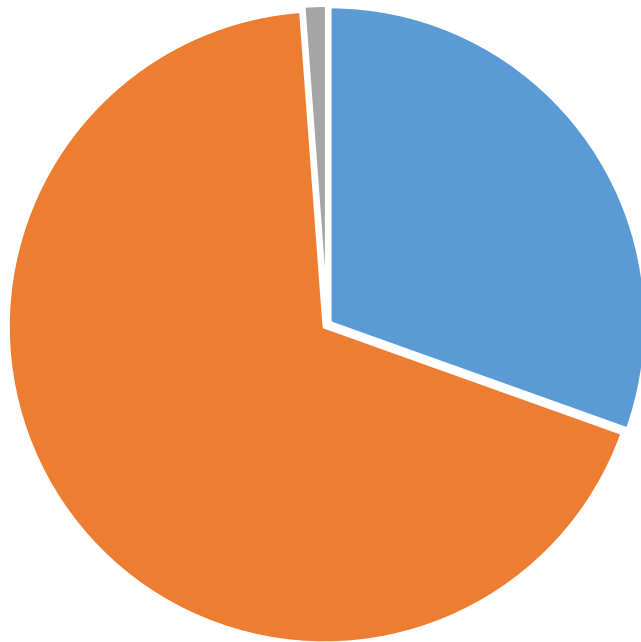
■ Iowa Yes ■ Iowa No ■ Iowa Other ■



■ National yes ■ National No  
■ National Other ■

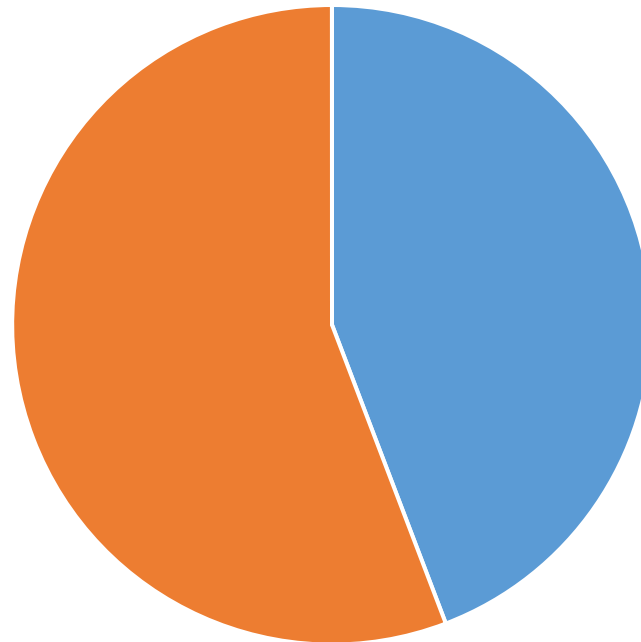
# Co-Occurring Disorder Status

Iowa



■ Yes ■ No ■ Other ■

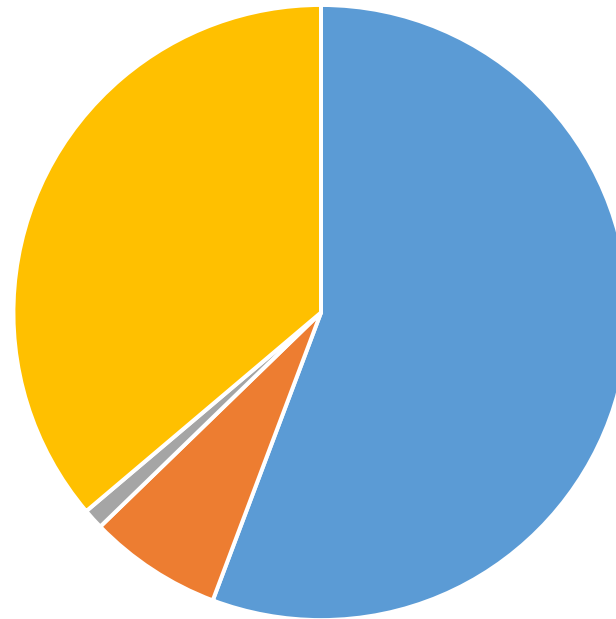
National



■ Yes ■ No ■ Other ■

# Destination at Exit of PATH

Iowa



■ Stayers ■ Temp Destination ■ Institution ■ Perm Destination ■ Other

# Courtney Guntly



Courtney Guntly is the Iowa Balance of State Continuum of Care Director. In this role, she supports HUD-funded housing programs in their efforts to end homelessness across Iowa's 96 counties making up the Balance of State, all while working strategically with partners to achieve this vision. Courtney holds a Master of Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis and a bachelor's degree in social work from Luther College.

# Iowa Balance of State Continuum of Care

COURTNEY GUNTLY, MSW  
BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE DIRECTOR

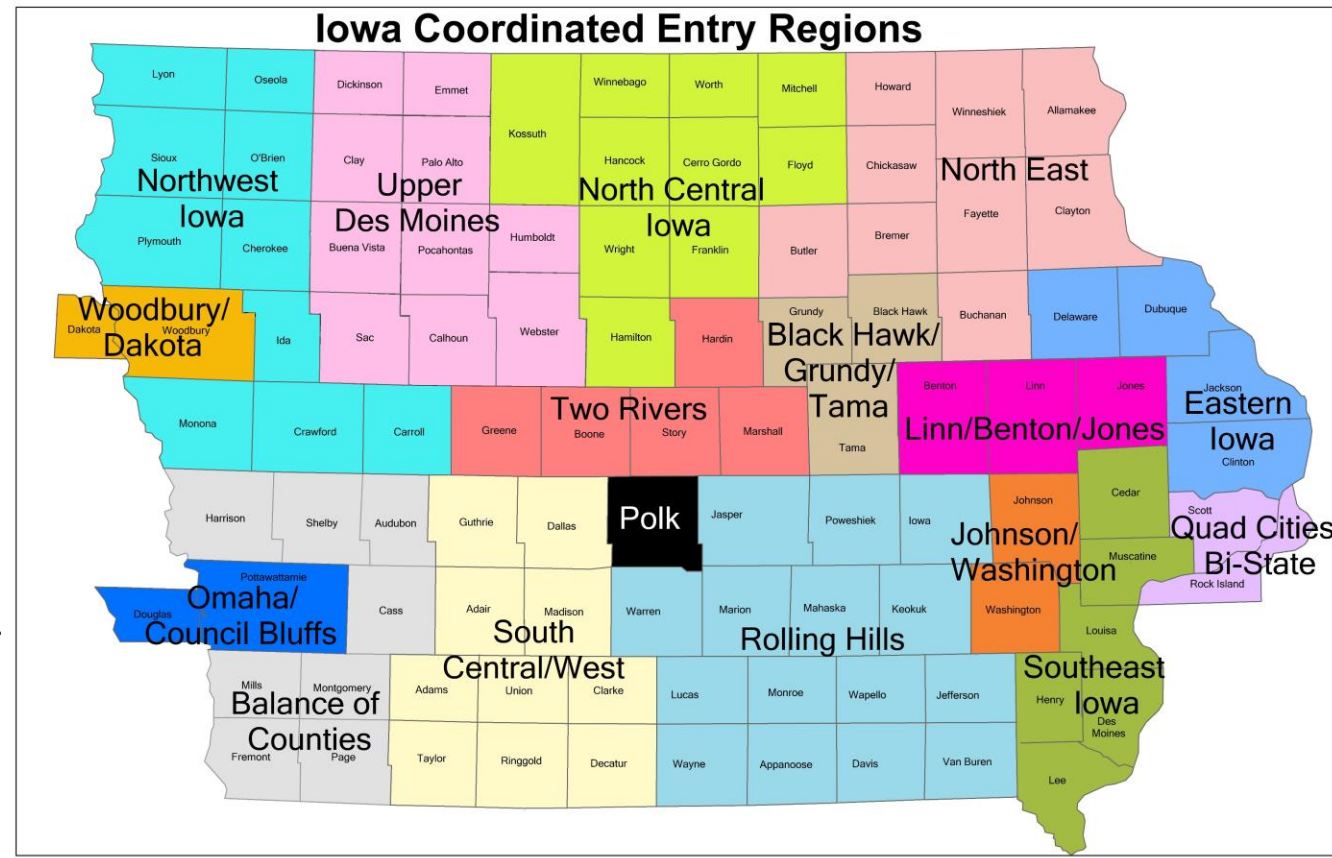
# What is a Continuum of Care?

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- The CoC carries out the responsibilities and duties as required by federal statute and is the coordinating body for homeless services and homelessness resources in the geographic area. With a 15-member volunteer board, this group is the entity responsible for making decisions about homeless services within the Balance of State.
- The Balance of State CoC covers 96 counties in Iowa, including all counties except Polk, Pottawattamie, and Woodbury.
- The Iowa Balance of State Continuum of Care is dedicated to ending homelessness through community collaborations, data-driven strategies, and best practice housing interventions.

# Coordinated Entry and the VI-SPDAT

- Coordinated Entry is the process that allows for someone experiencing homelessness to connect to the homeless system through any access point.
- A standardized tool is utilized for assessing clients for their risk. This tool is called the VI-SPDAT (Vulnerability Index-Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool).
- Households are prioritized for housing interventions based on their score on the VI-SPDAT.



# PSH Programs in the Balance of State

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- Willis Dady (Cedar Rapids)
- Friends of the Family (Northeast Iowa)
- Humility Homes & Services (Davenport)
- Community Housing Initiatives (Waterloo)
- Shelter House (Iowa City)
- City of Dubuque/ECIA (Dubuque)
- Family Alliance for Veterans of America (Forest City/Mason City)



# CoC Funding Competition

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- HUD posts an annual Notice of Funding Availability for CoC funding, which can be used for both Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing projects
- Each Continuum runs its own competition for funds and completes a single, consolidated application which is submitted to HUD.
- Funding priorities may vary, but projects are required to be Housing First and use best practices.
- There was no competition for funds in 2020, and while HUD has suggested there will be a competitive NOFA in 2021, there are no details yet on that process. Updates will be shared on our website as more information is released.

# Contact Information

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# Cynthia Latcham



Cynthia Latcham is the Executive Director at Anawim Housing, a nonprofit that focuses on implementing permanent supportive housing programs using evidence-based principles of housing first, harm reduction, and trauma-informed care. The programs and services offered through Anawim Housing have existed for over 20 years, with Cynthia leading the team since 2017.

# ANAWIM HOUSING

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*Anawim's mission is to develop stable homes  
and strengthen communities*





# PROGRAMS

## PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

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Offering low to no barrier services tailored to individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness in order to partner with the person to achieve housing stability and other life goals. One size does not, and should not be expected to fit all.

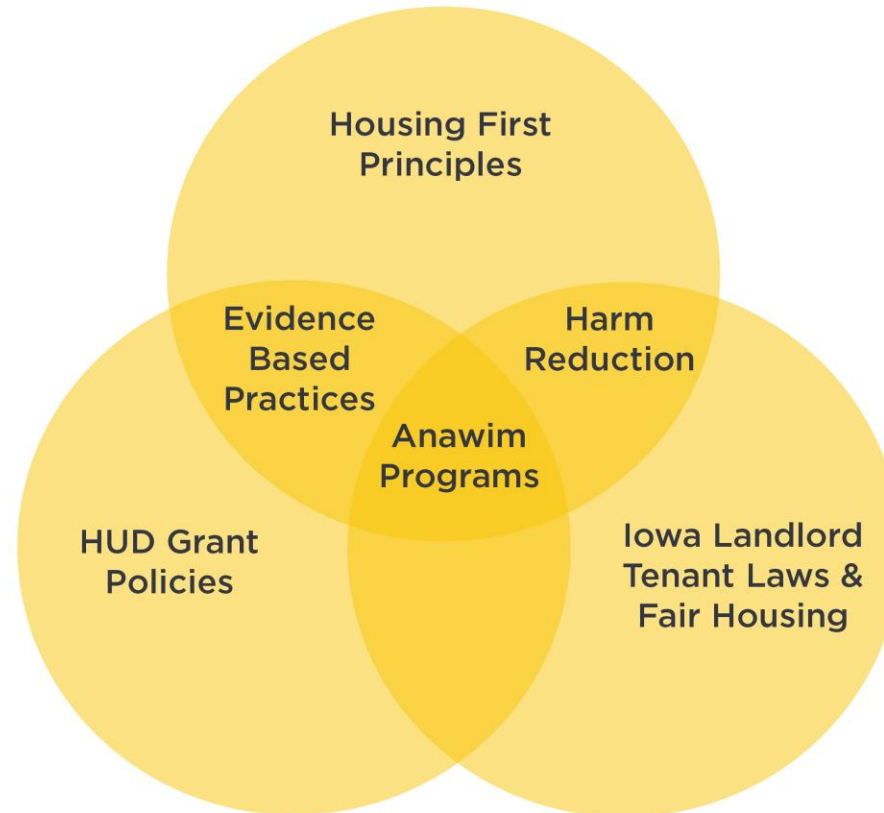


# Who we are:

Anawim Housing has been operating Sponsor Based Rental Assistance programs as a grant sub-recipient for 23+ years.

- ❖ All referrals come through Centralized Intake @ Primary Health Care
- ❖ We serve families, TAY and chronically homeless individuals in our CoC grants.
- ❖ We are the largest provider of PSH in Iowa.
- ❖ We lease 240+ Scattered site homes within Polk County.
- ❖ We work with 40+ landlords
- ❖ 2020 PSH retention rates at 96%

# Finding Creativity



# What is Housing First?

- ❖ **Homelessness is a housing crisis solved with housing**
- ❖ All people experiencing homelessness can achieve housing stability- removing barriers to housing is essential to the goal
- ❖ Everyone is “Housing Ready” Providers need to be “Consumer Ready”
- ❖ Housing First is not “housing only” we persistently and consistently offer voluntary services to program participants
- ❖ Housing configuration and services are matched to the individual’s needs.
- ❖ People experiencing homelessness have a right to self-determination and be treated with dignity and respect.



# PSH Utilizing Evidence Based Practices:

- ❖ Strengths-Based and Person Centered Case Management
- ❖ Stage Matched Interventions
- ❖ Motivational Interviewing
- ❖ Trauma Informed Care
- ❖ Contingency Management Theory

# So What does that really mean?

- ❖ Program managers diligently work to build trusting relationships and model healthy boundaries.
- ❖ Program managers partner with participants to resolve long standing mental health, substance use disorder and medical issues. Most of our participants have substantial histories of trauma and PTSD.
- ❖ Program managers work with participants to set and achieve goals based upon the participant's readiness and their vision of a healthy and happy life.
- ❖ Program managers partner with participants and other case management agencies to ensure participants maintain housing stability.

# Straight Talk: How to get to 96%:

- ❖ Fidelity to Housing First involves creating a top down and bottoms up culture of team members sold out to the implementation of harm reduction and removing barriers to housing. Housing First must be infused throughout practices, policy and culture.
- ❖ Housing First thrives in a creative and nimble atmosphere where case conferencing is the norm and a team spirit prevails. All voices are recognized and all ideas are considered.

# Straight talk continued:

- ❖ Implementing harm reduction and Housing First requires a deep **commitment** to understanding the inequities, structural racism, trauma (including generational trauma) that creates a situation of homelessness.
- ❖ Empathy and understanding is key to partnering with and tailoring services to participants - as **they** become ready to do so.
- ❖ Willing to make a paradigm shift from blaming the victim, ending old ideas of service readiness and rooting out bias for those deemed deserving or worthiness of services.

Yes, We enable:



# Contact Information

- ❖ Cynthia Latcham, MPA
- ❖ Executive Director
- ❖ 515-564-6566
- ❖ [Clatcham@anawimhousing.org](mailto:Clatcham@anawimhousing.org)

# Connect with us



/anawimhousing



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@anawimhousing

[www.anawimhousing.org](http://www.anawimhousing.org)

# Terri Rosonke



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IOWA FINANCE  
AUTHORITY

# Permanent Supportive Housing – National Housing Trust Fund

Terri Rosonke, Housing Programs Manager

# NATIONAL HOUSING TRUST FUND

- The National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF) is an affordable housing production program aimed at increasing and preserving the supply of affordable housing for extremely low-income households earning **no more than 30% of the area median income**, including homeless families.
- NHTF is a federal block grant program administered by states Iowa awarded **\$3 million** in beginning in FFY 2016 (minimum allocation by law)
  - Iowa's FFY 2021 NHTF allocation \$4.36 million
- 30-year affordability period with compliance monitoring for HUD-published income and rent restrictions and physical inspections for property standards (award provided in the form of a conditional grant)
- Capacity review of developer, owner, and management company are key

# NHTF Cross-Cutting Requirements

Including but not limited to the following:

- Environmental Review
- Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504
- Section 3
- Debarred, Suspended or Ineligible Contractors
- Site and Neighborhood Standards (new construction)
- Lead-Based Paint Regulations
- Energy Efficiency Standards
- Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan (AFHMP)
- Fair Housing Act
- Nondiscrimination and Equal Opportunity
- Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

# NHTF APPLICATION



**ELECTRONIC  
APPLICATION**



**DEFICIENCY  
PROCESS**



**SCORING**

Scoring criteria includes Targeted Populations (Families Experiencing Homelessness), Fully Accessible Units, Project-Based Rental Assistance, Opportunity Index Census Tracts, Leverage, Flexible Tenant Screening Criteria, Zoning, Nonprofit Ownership, and NHTF Subsidy per Unit



# NHTF ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES



**RENTAL**

## Iowa's NHTF Allocation Plan:

### Eligible Activity Types

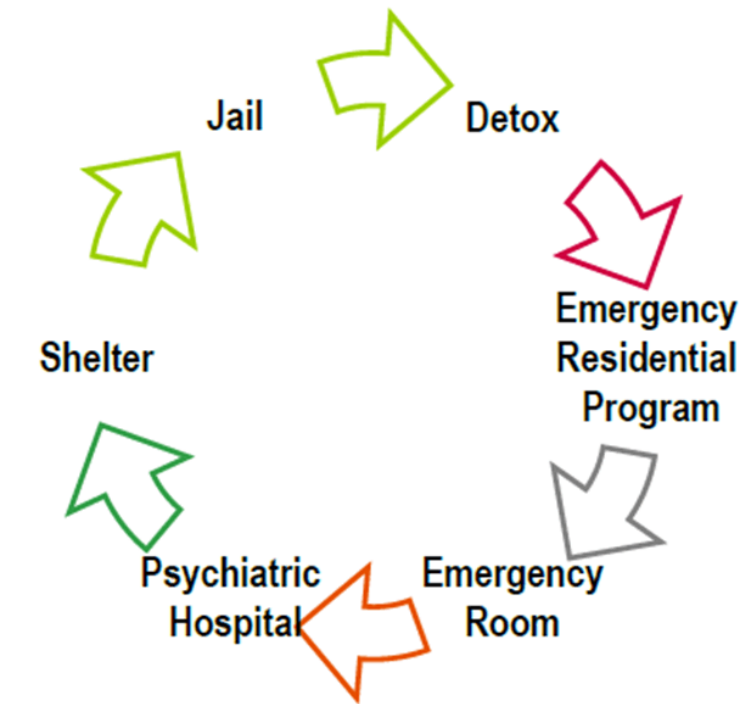
- New Construction
- Gut Rehabilitation
- Adaptive Reuse

### Highest Priorities

- Addressing needs of Extremely Low-Income Renters earning at or below 30% AMI
- Projects to be owned by an Experienced Nonprofit Entity that will provide permanent supportive housing for homeless persons
  - “Experienced Nonprofit Entity” defined as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with experience providing housing or supportive services to Extremely Low-Income households in the proposed project’s market area

\$2.7 million NHTF award to Shelter House for **Cross Park Place** in Iowa City:

24 one-bedroom unit FUSE-Housing First PSH project targeting chronically homeless persons who are frequent users of high-cost services at public expense. Tenants are offered supportive services on-site, including offices and an exam room for case managers and medical and behavioral health providers.



“Frequent Users” continuously cycle through a variety of emergency interventions (legal, medical, psychiatric, detoxification, etc.). This cycle comes at great expense to the community with no lasting improvement to the individual. The “FUSE” model (Frequent Users Systems Engagement) provides housing to a targeted “frequent user” population with integrated health and social services to help overcome their more complex barriers to remaining stably housed. FUSE combines (1) affordable housing (2) supportive services (3) data-driven problem solving (4) cross system collaboration.

Housing First does not condition housing on the behavior of participants but instead provides permanent affordable housing with the on-going option to participate in supportive services.

# Cross Park Place Data



Iowa City Police Department data reflects a comparable or fewer Quality of Life Calls at Cross Park Place than surrounding non-supportive housing properties (Cross Park Place is the blue dot furthest south on the map)

The University of Iowa School of Social Work is completing a longitudinal evaluation of Cross Park Place.

- In-depth research on 24 chronically homeless persons in Johnson County. Three of the original 24 died while living on the streets before Cross Park Place opened. Case studies of just four people showed a total un-reimbursed cost of over \$2.16 million during the 4.5-year study period.
- Examples of UIHC's significant decrease in billed costs for just two of Cross Park Place's first tenants:
  - Psychiatry Example Case: drop from \$211,617 to \$957 UIHC billed costs
  - Nurse Practitioner Example Case: drop from \$585,807 to \$152,919 UIHC billed costs
- During the three years prior to move-in, Cross Park Place tenants averaged 107 nights in jail per quarter. During the first 18 months of operation, tenant nights spent in jail decreased by 74% after housing placement. The cost savings related to jail time alone will be significant based upon these preliminary findings.

# NATIONAL HOUSING TRUST FUND

**FFY 2017**

\$2.7 million NHTF award to Manasseh House/Operation Empower for Liberty Recovery Community in Dubuque:

24 one-bedroom units to provide permanent supportive housing to individuals working to overcome substance use disorders. Another building, Liberty Recovery and Training Center, will provide daily classes, groups, meetings, therapies and critical continued recovery support services.



# NATIONAL HOUSING TRUST FUND

**FFY 2018**

\$2.7 million NHTF award to Central Iowa Shelter & Services (CISS) in Des Moines:

24 studio apartments, to be built adjacent to the current CISS location, that will provide supportive housing for homeless persons who are ready to transition into independent living. Although not required, individuals living in the new apartments will have access to case management, behavioral health specialists, dental, healthcare and substance abuse services, life skills support, job training programs, emergency food pantry, clothing closet and three meals per day served at the existing shelter.

# NATIONAL HOUSING TRUST FUND

**FFY 2019**

\$2.7 million NHTF award to Shelter House in Iowa City for Housing First 2.0:

36 one-bedroom permanent supportive housing units to be built adjacent to the current Shelter House emergency shelter facility location. This Housing First new construction project will be a three-story facility with offices for program and administrative staff, private meeting rooms for partnering health and behavioral health clinicians, computer workstations and multi-purpose congregate area for tenants, hot room for bedbug mitigation and large storage area for furniture and household donations on the first floor. The second and third floors will be dedicated for residential use and comprised of 36 one-bedroom units and laundry facilities.

# NATIONAL HOUSING TRUST FUND

**FFY 2020**

\$2.7 million in NHTF dollars available

- Application opening: April 30
- Applications closing: July 2
- For more information on IFA's 2021 NHTF funding round, visit our NHTF web page [National Housing Trust Fund - Iowa Finance Authority](#)

# AMERICAN RESUCE PLAN ACT

**\$5 billion in homelessness assistance to provide rental assistance and supportive services, to develop affordable rental housing, to help acquire non-congregate shelter to be converted into permanent affordable housing or used as emergency shelter**

Estimated Allocations:

IA	STATE	\$29,923,026
	Ames	\$1,288,565
	Cedar Rapids	\$1,409,784
	CNSRT-Sioux City	\$1,771,930
	CNSRT-Waterloo	\$1,807,913
	Davenport	\$1,557,260
	Des Moines	\$3,610,478
	Iowa City	\$1,817,231

Stay tuned for more information!

# THANK YOU

**TERRI ROSONKE** Housing Programs Manager  
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IOWA FINANCE  
AUTHORITY

# Maria Walker



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# Iowa Perspectives on Permanent Supportive Housing: The Regional Mental Health & Disability Services Perspective

MHTTC Webinar  
April 22, 2021

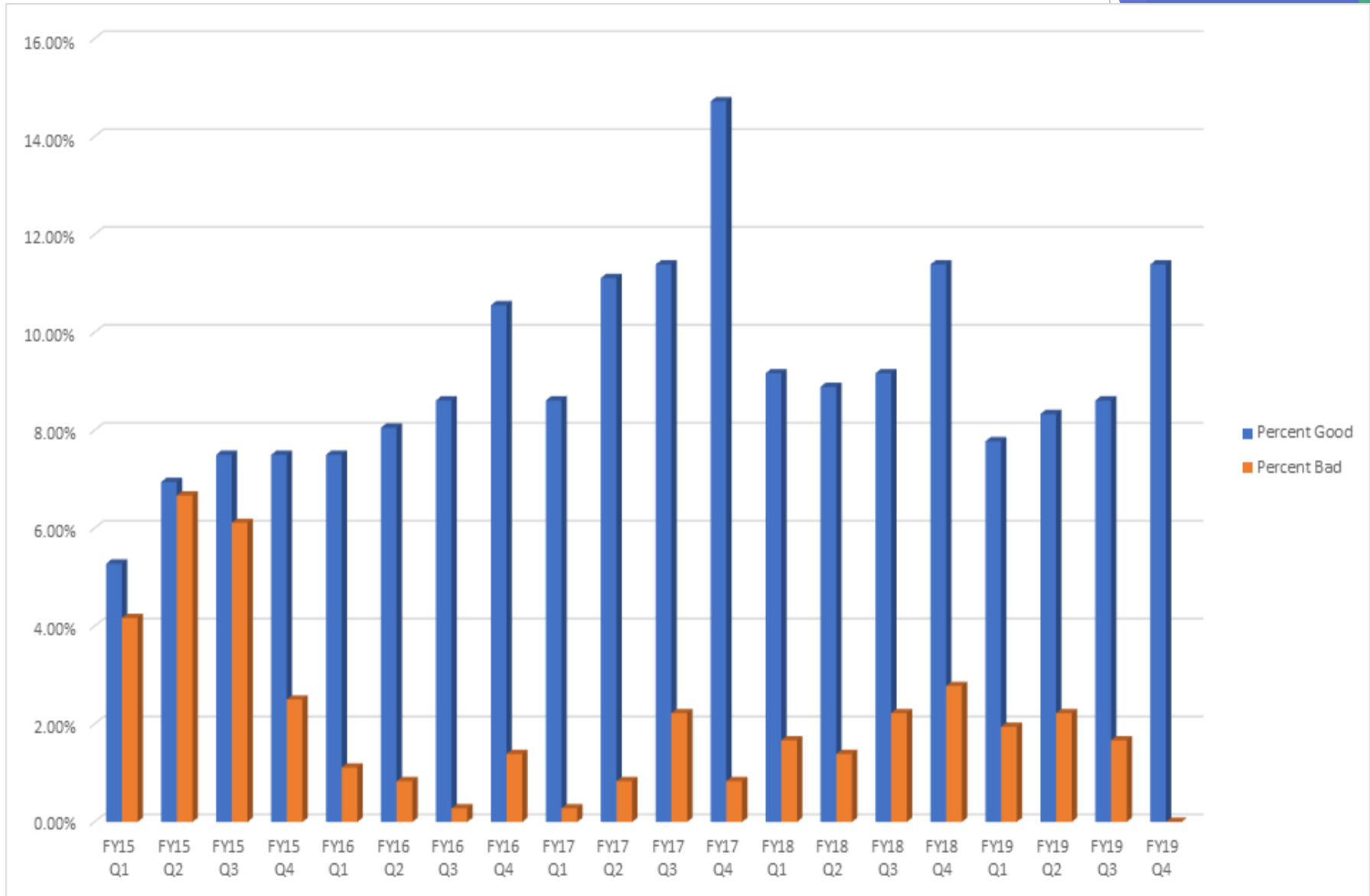
**POLK COUNTY**  
**HEALTH SERVICES**

# Value Added

- ▶ The value of speaking last 😊
  - ▶ Reinforcing philosophy and value of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) across our systems
- ▶ The value from the Mental Health and Disability Services (MHDS) Regional Perspective
  - ▶ Brief overview of MHDS Regional system
  - ▶ Iowa Values PSH
    - ▶ Legislation mandates fidelity review within MHDS Regions
- ▶ The value from a data point of view
  - ▶ Polk MHDS Region's experience



When we focus on housing, employment, education and community inclusion... homeless days, jail days, ER visits and inpatient days go down



# For More Information:

Maria Walker

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**POLK COUNTY**  
**HEALTH SERVICES**



Thank you very much

Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding  
Permanent Supportive Housing

Mogens Bill Baerentzen, PhD., CRC, LMHP

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# Permanent Supportive Housing

Stay tuned-more events to come!

View all webinars here:

<https://mhttcnetwork.org/centers/mid-america-mhttc/permanent-supportive-housing-monthly-webinar-series>



Mid-America (HHS Region 7)

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# Take Our Survey

Follow the link

<https://ttc-gpra.org/P?s=730107>

**OR**

Use your smartphone's  
Camera app to scan the  
QR code 





Mid-America (HHS Region 7)

**MHTTC**

Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network  
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