



North Carolina Coalition

securing resources ■ encouraging public dialogue ■ advocating for public policy change

to End Homelessness

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Increasing Successful Outcomes While Decreasing Costs: Hospital Partnerships to End Homelessness

An opportunity for hospital leadership to learn strategies to improve care for homeless patients while reducing overall system costs.

Throughout the country, a high percentage of the total cost of care is incurred by a small percentage of patients. North Carolina is no different—hospitals across our state are struggling to balance appropriate care and the ever-mounting costs for serving uninsured patients. Current research is unveiling new information about this population, including the fact that two-thirds of the cases within this high-cost group are homeless patients.

Homelessness is negatively impacting the effectiveness of health care services and ultimately results in frequent and inappropriate use of the health care system. Investment in a different approach is needed. Be a part of this innovative initiative to save system costs and provide more comprehensive care for homeless individuals in North Carolina.

June 29, 2009
10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Marbles Kids Museum
201 E. Hargett St.
Raleigh, NC

Featured Speakers and Topics

- **Richard Cho**, Corporation for Supportive Housing, Frequent Users of Health Services Initiative
Mr. Cho will present current data about the costs and care associated with this population of frequent health-care users. What is it costing us to maintain the status quo, and how could we reduce these costs and end the cycle of frequent hospital use?
- **Lori Pacura**, Vice President, Patient Care Services, Mount Sinai Hospital Medical Center
Ms. Pacura will present a model of hospital partnership success: The Housing for Health Partnership. This Partnership has increased access to care while reducing hospital costs, and is featured in the current issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association.
- **Brooks Ann McKinney**, Community Medical Respite Center Director, Raleigh Rescue Mission
Ms. McKinney will present information on the Respite Center that has been developed in Wake County. This discharge protocol and respite care program has increased communication and collaboration between hospitals and area homeless shelters, and is a first step toward increasing continuity of care and decreasing Emergency Department visits.
- **Denise Neunaber**, Executive Director, North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness
Ms. Neunaber will present information about NC SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery), a program designed to access disability benefits for homeless individuals. Hospital systems can play a role in their community SOAR initiative and begin to bill Medicaid/Medicare for currently uninsured and frequent hospital users.



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Summit Agenda

Increasing Success & Decreasing Costs: Hospital Partnerships to End Homelessness

June 29, 2009

10:00 AM-3:00 PM

10:00 Welcome and Introductions

10:15 Current Research: Costs and potential cost savings associated with healthcare for frequent users who are homeless
Richard Cho, Corporation for Supportive Housing

11:45 Networking Lunch (provided by NCCEH); Discussion Questions

12:30 Model of Success: Chicago Housing for Health Partnership
Lori Pacura, Mount Sinai Medical Center

1:45 Local Replication: NC Program and Policy Models

- Wake County Respite Care
Brooks Ann McKinney, Raleigh Rescue Mission
- NC SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery)
Denise Neunaber, NC Coalition to End Homelessness

2:45 Next Steps