

Emergency Shelter Learning Community

Key Components for Effective Shelter Practices

Organization Name: _____ Date: _____

2: How do we add diversion activities at the front door of shelter?

1. What do we need to change to incorporate diversion into our current mission and work?
2. What partnerships do we need?
3. Who will be responsible for the problem solving conversation at the shelter front door?
4. What training with staff/board/community need to incorporate diversion into our work?

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3: How do we provide easy and low barrier access to our shelter?

1. What do we need to change in our policies and procedures to be more “low-barrier”?
2. What changes would we need to make to operate a 24/7 shelter?
3. Is there something we could do differently with our space to accommodate different kinds of populations that we don’t serve now?
4. What training for staff will these transitions need?
5. How do we re-think job roles and activities?

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4: How do we make our environment more housing-focused, with emphasis on rapid exits to permanent housing?

1. What can we do to increase rapid exits to permanent housing? What services can we add to focus on permanent housing and which should we get rid of?
2. Does our shelter have a “housing focused message? What can we do to create a housing focused environment? When does the conversation about moving to permanent housing begin?
3. What changes do we need to make to job descriptions, policies and procedures, mission statement etc. to reflect a housing focused shelter to rapidly exit more people to permanent housing?
4. What job positions could be changed to take on the role of locating housing? What might we shift in our budget to focus on housing people? What partners do we need to leverage?

