



Committee on Healthcare, Homelessness, and Housing (CH3)

A Committee of the Coalition for Affordable Housing and Transit



The Catalyst: COVID19

- Began with Tactical Responses
- United Two Ongoing Conversations
 - Health and Homelessness
 - Housing and homelessness
- What emerged was a need for strategic responses that are cross-cutting and silo-busting

Housing is a Healthcare Strategy

“Access to safe, quality and affordable housing – and the supports necessary to maintain that housing – constitute one of the most basic and powerful social determinants of health.

In particular, for individuals and families trapped in a cycle of crisis and housing instability due to poverty, mental illness, addictions or chronic health issues, housing can entirely dictate their health and health trajectory.” – *World Health Organization, 2008*

Housing is the Best Medicine



"It wasn't until I had just a couple of patients housed," said Gaeta, that I saw this turnaround in their health. Basically I was seeing that if I could write a prescription for keys to an apartment that that was going to do more to improve the health of the patient sitting in front me than the prescription I can write for anything else." Dr. Jessie Gaeta

National Models of Health and Housing Partnerships

Financial partnerships between health systems, Managed Care Organizations and housing developers

- Portland, Oregon: Creation of 379 new units of affordable housing
 - Phoenix, AZ: Creation of 500 new units of affordable housing
 - Minneapolis, MN: Provided subsidies for 1000 units of affordable housing
 - San Mateo, CA: Provided supportive services to 124 persons transitioning from facilities and showed a 50% cost reduction
 - LA, CA: Provided development and subsidy funding for up to 10,000 units
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Healthcare and Homeless Services Need Each Other

- Each operate from highly regulated and complex systems
 - Homeless services have access to affordable housing resources and health care has access to capital investment dollars
 - Medicaid is a significant payer of health care but does not allow room and board payments....yet
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Actions and Invitations

- Incentivize collaboration among affordable housing developers, homeless service providers, and healthcare providers through the RFP processes
 - Promote meaningful inclusion of units set aside for homeless populations and those at or below 30% of AMI
 - Follow guidelines where you must and be innovative and flexible where you can
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