

**Experience** 

September 2023

COMMUNITY

## **BFZ Housing Equity Strategists**



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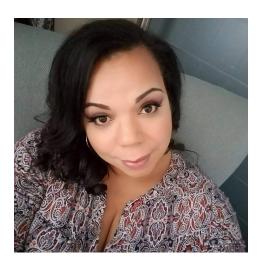
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## Meaningful Engagement of People with Lived Experience of Homelessness

## What does it mean to meaningfully engage people with lived experience of homelessness?

Communities that have meaningfully engaged people with lived experience of homelessness create an environment where people with lived experience of homelessness are able to share their truth about what is working and what is not working in the system, without fear of retaliation.

In these communities the homeless response system leaders and governing bodies have included those disproportionately represented within the system and historically underserved and excluded, particularly Black, Brown, and Indigenous people and those who have lived experience of homelessness.

People with lived experience are paid for their time and expertise and lead on decisions affecting the community. Through this meaningful engagement of people with lived experience of homelessness a community develops and sustains interventions to end homelessness.

Meaningful **Engagement of People with Lived Experience of Homelessness Critical Standards Categories:** 







Meaningful **Engagement of People with Lived Experience of Homelessness Core Elements Internal Practices:** 



- Be Authentic
- Be Consistent
- Be Accessible
- Be Inclusive

Meaningful **Engagement of People with Lived Experience of** Homelessness **Core Elements** Relationship Framework:



- Re-evaluate Perception of "Professionalism"
- Treat with dignity and respect
- Implement Trauma & Healing Informed Practices
- Value the contribution
- Build partnership & power share

Meaningful **Engagement of People with Lived Experience of** Homelessness **Core Elements** Infrastructure **Principles:** 

- Reflect the population being served
- Address & solve for barriers
- Continuous learning & improvement

What does Meaningful Engagement look like?

Bad & Good Examples from Housing Equity Strategists