

Built for Zero Housing Stabilization Learning Cohort (HSLC)

Housing Stabilization Learning Cohort Overview

March 2024

What is the Housing Stabilization Learning Cohort (HSLC)?

An innovation cohort of Built for Zero (BFZ) and other communities focused on co-creating local approaches to coordinating and targeting prevention resources to reduce homelessness and housing insecurity. Communities engaged with HSLC are, together, building a new, comprehensive vision along with practical approaches for preventing homelessness that are both widely accessible and targeted. These approaches center on trained staff capable of providing Housing Problem-Solving assistance and coordinated and prioritized access to community resources for people with the greatest housing insecurity where and when they need it. When coupled with other innovative strategies that leverage data and cross-sector relationships to help engage and assist people more “upstream” these “housing urgent care” approaches are showing significant promise and a necessary part of every community’s efforts to increase housing security and well-being,

What is Homelessness Prevention?

- Homelessness prevention refers to policies, practices, and interventions that reduce the likelihood that someone will experience homelessness. It also means providing those who have been homeless with the necessary resources and supports to stabilize their housing, enhance integration and social inclusion, and ultimately reduce the risk of the recurrence of homelessness. Targeted homelessness prevention, including diversion, are more intensive forms of prevention designed to serve people who are imminently at-risk of literal homelessness tonight or within a short period.

What is COORDINATED Homelessness Prevention?

- A community-wide approach that uses common risk screening criteria to identify people who are housing insecure, including those who are at greatest risk for literal homelessness, and then offers immediate, coordinated access to housing problem-solving and prevention-related resources, including prioritized access to assistance for people with more urgent prevention needs.

Our Theory of Change

- By coordinating a coordinated prevention approach and targeting resources, communities can improve housing stability overall while reducing inflow into literal homelessness and advancing racial equity.

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Our HSLC Learning Lab

- Our Learning Lab consists of five communities currently engaged in building a coordinated prevention system within their communities. By partnering with us, they receive:
 - 1:1 coaching and customized community support to develop and execute a coordinated prevention plan tied to community goals & priorities
 - Quarterly Peer-Expert Learning Calls in response to topics identified by cohort communities
 - Access to shared material, best practices, tools and data dashboards
 - Opportunities for pass through funding tied to identified gaps related to prevention planning and coordination, data analysis and related capacity, and engaging/compensating/supporting people with lived experience of homelessness (PLEH).

Our HSLC Learning Circles

- Our HSLC Learning Circles are regular Peer Learning opportunities for both BFZ and non-BFZ communities that occur through regular (bi-monthly) virtual sessions organized by the HSLC team. Sessions provide an opportunity for learning about new/innovative or best practices nationally, including emerging tools and learnings from the HSLC Learning Lab communities. Communities participating in the Learning Circles have access to the HSLC Toolbank, a growing bank of guidance, tools, templates, and community examples designed to support communities with completing the **HSLC Foundational Priorities** for developing and launching a **Coordinated Homelessness Prevention** system

Need More Information?

- [HSLC Online Hub](#)
- [HSLC Learning Circles Sign-Up](#)