



Boston Public Health Commission - Community Driven Approaches to Address Factors Contributing to Structural Racism in Public Health: Housing and SUD

Need

Develop, pilot and evaluate policies and practices that ensure the equitable provision of low-threshold housing and related services for unsheltered homeless individuals and reduce the burden of homelessness, SUD and inequity in the criminal justice system on people of color in Boston.

Inputs	Activities	Mid-term Outcomes	Long-term Outcomes	Impact
<p>Staff Diverse and highly experienced project team.</p> <p>Community partners City government and community partners from housing, substance use, criminal justice, and faith community</p> <p>Funding/Grant Federal, state, and city</p> <p>Low-threshold housing providers and housing resources</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Convene and meet regularly with the multisector working group 2. Assess and identify at least two specific policies and practices important to the equitable provision of low-threshold housing and related services in Boston. 3. Assess at least one upstream policy or practice important to addressing structural racism and its contribution to homelessness, SUD and involvement with the criminal justice system in Boston 4. Train community stakeholders in methods for community engagement and reducing stigma around homelessness and SUD 5. Monitor and evaluate policies and practices 6. Disseminate best practices 7. Develop a sustainability plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice and engagement from a diverse multisector partner group • Assessment and implementation of at least two specific policies and practices important to the equitable provision of low-threshold housing and related services in Boston • Assessment and implementation of at least one policy or practice important to addressing structural racism • Training at least 30 members of community-based agencies and other stakeholders in methods for community engagement and reducing stigma around homelessness and SUD • Deploying community-led engagement teams in 3 Boston neighborhoods • Completion of at least 3 distinct dissemination activities • Completion of a sustainability plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services will be provided, accessed and utilized equitably: Low-threshold housing and related services will be accessed and utilized equitably, as measured by race/ethnicity of those using these services compared to the population of unsheltered homeless people. • Services will be provided effectively: engaging those identified as unsheltered homeless persons in services, and reducing the number of unsheltered homeless persons • Community members and community-based organizations will develop capacity to engage residents in addressing the issue of unsheltered homelessness and substance use disorder 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies and practices are specifically crafted to ensure equitable access to low-threshold housing. • Improved quality of life outcomes for unsheltered homeless individuals and those with SUD