

Homelessness, Housing, Mental Health Task Force



February 15, 2023



Meeting Purpose:

Learn about the services provided by first-responders to Tulsans experiencing mental health crisis, including those experiencing homelessness.

Family and Children's Services- About Us

- F&CS Homeless Services clinic is embedded in 1st floor Salvation Army Center of Hope
 - Other locations include mid-town Tulsa & North Tulsa
- Services Provided:
 - Case Management/Basic Resource Acquisition
 - Therapy
 - Peer Recovery Services
 - Life Skills training
 - Medication management and pharmacy services
 - Medical Care Coordination
 - Nursing Services
 - Housing Services
 - Limited Flexible funds for basic needs
- Crisis Services
 - COPES
 - CRT
 - Crisis Care Center
 - FCS staff embedded in the 911 center
- Homeless Outreach Services
 - Work with Riverside TPD x1/month
 - Strategic outreach services with those who have had contact with CRT

Staffing

- Partner with pop-up warming shelters for staffing needs
 - December 2022:
 - Engaged 232 guests
 - 12 F&CS employees volunteered
 - 40 current F&CS clients served
 - 9 individuals referred to F&CS as new clients
 - 6 medical services provided by F&CS LPN
 - January 2023
 - Engaged 30 guests (shelter capacity = 30)
 - 3 current F&CS clients served
 - 1 current F&CS client referred to Crisis Care Center
 - 5 individuals referred to F&CS as new clients
 - 1 F&CS client re-connected to services
- F&CS staff embedded with various community partners
 - Day Center for the Homeless
 - Irongate
 - Library
 - Be Heard
 - Mental Health Association of Oklahoma
 - Tulsa Housing Authority
 - Tulsa County Jail
 - Youth Services of Tulsa
 - Tulsa City Jail (starting Feb. 2023)

F&CS Community Participation

- F&CS participates in various Tulsa homeless initiatives and committees
 - A Way Home for Tulsa
 - Point in Time Count
 - Special Services Docket
 - Archer Corridor Safety Meeting
 - Community Case Conferencing staffings
 - Bi-Weekly Homeless/Housing meeting
 - FUSE – Frequent Utilizer Systems Engagement Committee
 - Tulsa Center for Behavioral Health/F&CS monthly collaboration meetings

F&CS Impact

- Total 2022 F&CS Clients Served
 - **16,234** Adults
 - **5,848** Children
- \$2.275 Million dedicated budgets to Homeless Services and programs
- 2022 Homeless and At Risk for Homeless Clients Served: **4,418**
 - At Risk for Homelessness includes transitional housing, supportive housing, temporary housing, at risk for eviction, rent burdened
 - 2022 Homeless Clients Served:
 - # of clients: **1369**
 - # of crisis services provided: **9883**
 - # of non-crisis services provided: **37,982**
 - 2022 Client Services for those At Risk of Homelessness:
 - # of clients: **3049**
 - # of crisis services provided: **6075**
 - # of non-crisis services provided: **85,423**

Barriers to Housing

- Safe Affordable housing options
- Financial Limitations
- Violent crimes including arson and sex offenders
- History of eviction
- Transportation
- Affordable childcare
- Available and adequate housing options

Recommendations

- Transitional/Supportive housing with co-located wrap around mental health, substance abuse and jail re-entry clinical services
- Safe Affordable Housing
- Flexible funds to assist clients with housing needs and eviction prevention.
- Graduated/Titrated rent options for individuals transitioning into treatment.
- Dedicated Mobile Homeless Crisis Response Team
- Day Services programming including:
 1. Financial literacy, Money management, budgeting, consumer education, use of credit
 2. Household maintenance
 3. Basic life skills resources, counseling services, and aftercare services
 4. Interpersonal skill-building
 5. Educational opportunities: GED preparation, post-secondary training, vocational education
 6. Job attainment skills
 7. Mental and physical health care
 8. Activities of daily living skills
 9. Parenting skills

Panel Discussion

Justin Lemery, Director of Emergency Medical Services – Tulsa Fire Department

Captain Shellie Seibert, Community Engagement Unit/Mental Health Unit – Tulsa Police Department

Major Thaddeus Espy, Gilcrease Division – Tulsa Police Department

Lee Gibson, Director of Operations – EMSA

Adam Paluka, Chief Public Affairs Officer – EMSA

Jill Young, Chief Program Officer – Family & Children's Services

Kathy Loehr, Program Director for Homeless Services – Family & Children's Services



Discussion Questions

- What is going well?
- What problems are you trying to solve?
- How can the city help?
 - Policy
 - Funding
 - Convening
 - Centralization of resources, systems, data, process efficiencies, etc.