



Advancing Health Equity Illinois Team CountyCare

Illinois team focus: Housing as a social determinant of health and inequity.

CountyCare payment innovation: integration of housing into Medicaid model via investment in direct services plus additional resources for systems integration, scaling and development of a payment innovation model.

Provision of housing and integrated services for members experiencing homelessness.

Illinois Team/CountyCare Initiative Vision: Cook County Health Plan Services supports strategies to prevent and end homelessness in Cook County. We support members experiencing homelessness and housing instability by addressing systemic inequities in health care and housing access through initiatives that promote health access, secure safe and affordable housing and advance just policy. We strive to close the mortality gap between housed and unhoused residents of Cook County.



Advancing Health Equity Learning Collaborative

Illinois Team Members

Technical advisors

- University of Chicago Advancing Health Equity
- Institute for Medicaid Innovation (IMI)
- Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS)

Illinois Team Members

- Cook County Health, Health Plan Services/CountyCare
- Cook County Health System
 - Housing Programs
 - Collaborative Research Unit
 - Care teams/care coordination
- Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services
- ACCESS Community Health Network





Illinois Advancing Health Equity Team
CountyCare
Project: Flexible Housing Pool

- A housing program, supported by various investors, that seeks to rapidly house vulnerable homeless individuals in permanent, supportive housing.
- Partnership between Cook County Health, City of Chicago, Chicago Housing Authority and Housing Authority of Cook County
- The overall FHP Program is funded by a mix of public and private investors and is administered through a contract with the Center for Housing and Health and subcontractors.



Advancing Health Equity Learning Collaborative Illinois Team Housing Partners

- Center for Housing and Health 
- Deborah's Place 
- Housing Forward 
- Thresholds **THRES OLDS** 
- Renaissance Social Services
- Christian Community Health Center (CCHC) 
- The Boulevard  The Boulevard



Flexible Housing Pool Lived Experience Advisory Committee (LEAC)

Partnering with Medicaid Members

The Illinois AHE Learning Collaborative Team is focusing on those who are unstably housed or homeless. To identify health concerns within this target population, the team reached out to the Flexible Housing Pool Lived Experience Advisory Committee (LEAC). The LEAC meets monthly to advise and inform the Flexible Housing Pool's growth. It is composed of people who experienced homelessness in the past, and who are currently living in supportive housing, with chronic health conditions. Team members attended one of the LEAC's meetings to meet the council and have a preliminary conversation about their AHE project. The Illinois team plans to continue these conversations in future council meetings to inform their project and identify pertinent health concerns.



Lived Experience Advisory Committee (LEAC) Member

a. How did you find the LEAC members with which you partner?

Member joined when asked by a staff member if he would like to provide feedback and brainstorm around ideas of housing for current and future individuals in need.

*Currently, we are revamping the LEAC. New members will be outreached and introduced to the committee upon Flexible Housing Pool enrollment and participation as the program continues to grow.



Lived Experience Advisory Member Mr. John Hunt Pronouns: He/Him

Mr. John Hunt has been part of the Lived Experience Advisory Committee for 1 year now. He joined when asked by a staff member if he would like to provide feedback and brainstorm around ideas of housing for current and future individuals in need. John stated he joined the LEAC because he wanted to be a part of any panel to help others get housing because it is rough out here. Mr. Hunt has had stable housing with the Flexible Housing Pool program for 2 years now. He stated, “I had no clue about homelessness, it was a shock to me; a culture shock that I had to grow to learn. All my family had passed on and we lost the family building. I went from Pacific Garden Mission to riding the train, to Olive Branch, friends’ couches etc. Until I was finally able to get housed with the Flexible Housing Pool. “

