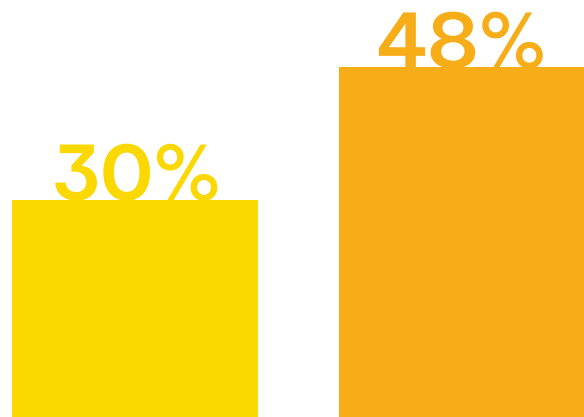


Emergency Interim Housing Report Highlights

Emergency Interim Housing (EIH) is temporary housing intended to provide safety, shelter, and supportive services to people experiencing homelessness in private units with lockable doors while they seek permanent housing. While EIH emerged as a promising practice before 2020, the model gained traction during the COVID-19 pandemic as an effective way to protect highly vulnerable populations from contagion.

EIH has proven to be more successful in connecting residents to long-term housing than traditional, congregate shelters, largely in part due to the investment in one-on-one case management and the privacy and security residents are afforded to regain a sense of normalcy.

Program Participant Exits to Permanent Housing



Traditional Emergency Shelter Performance Benchmark

City of San José EIH Site Actual Performance

Individuals served in the City of San José's interim housing sites who exited to permanent housing is a significant 18% higher than the benchmark metric from traditional emergency shelters. EIH success rates are in part boosted by having private units with lockable doors and the ability to come and go from the shelter during the day.

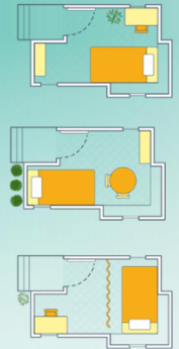


Promising Emergency Interim Housing Practices and Considerations



Design of private and communal spaces

The physical design of private and communal spaces is a critical element to effectively meet the needs of EIH residents. Human-centered communal spaces are comfortable and accessible and inspire connection. The design of the individual units is another consideration – comfort, flexibility to rearrange the space, and accessibility are important factors.



Effective program duration and staff caseloads

EIH program duration varies widely, but shorter-term EIH sites generally provide housing for three to six months. This program duration can be highly effective in supporting individuals with lower- to mid-acuity needs to achieve housing stability. Longer time frames, such as eight to 12 months, are more likely to enable individuals with higher-acuity needs to stabilize and obtain permanent housing. Special consideration must also be taken for staff caseloads – sites serving residents with lower-acuity needs can be successful with larger staff-to-resident ratios (1:30)² than sites serving residents with higher-acuity needs (1:10)³.



Designated sites for specific subpopulations

Some EIH programs are dedicated to serving specific subpopulations including:

- Residents that experienced chronic homelessness
- Families with children
- Survivors of domestic violence
- Senior adults
- Individuals with significant health condition

Having subpopulation-designated sites allows providers to tailor program duration, site layout, and supportive service provision and staffing to better address the unique needs of distinct groups.

² files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/COVID-19-Homeless-System-Response-Case-Management-Ratios.pdf

³ pdx.edu/homelessness/sites/g/files/znlldhr1791/files/2022-04/PSU_HRAC_Village%20Research%20and%20How-To%20Guide_SPREADS_04_22.pdf



Financial sustainability

EIH programs achieve financial sustainability by leveraging local, state, and/or federal rental assistance funding, mainstream benefits, and partnerships to cover operations and service costs and provide critical wraparound services to program participants.



Resident self-governance, engagement, and employment opportunities

Many EIH communities use a model of self-governance that empowers residents to meaningfully participate in decision-making by implementing their suggestions and communicating the outcomes of the feedback process to all involved parties. Additionally, EIH programs can increase participants' connection to the surrounding communities as well as empower residents to build skills and grow personally and professionally by building partnerships with workforce development programs and creating on-site employment opportunities.



Cost-effective security models

When considering security models, EIH programs must balance various competing concerns: maintaining safety, respecting residents' dignity and privacy, and maximizing cost effectiveness. Emerging solutions include leveraging residential service coordinators to carry out supervision and security functions as well as hybrid approaches with private security during the graveyard shift and program staff supervision during the day.