BETTER HEALTH THROUGH HOUSING links the health care and supportive housing worlds to work together to end homelessness and improve health outcomes for participants.
DONALD’S STORY

Donald struggled to find regular, full-time work for years, which also made it difficult for him to find a steady place to live. His time served in jail only made things harder and Donald relied on his siblings for support. However, the instability eventually led him to seek solace at a men’s shelter in Chicago’s Uptown neighborhood, but after still not being able to find work Donald resorted to joining the newly developed tent city underneath a lake shore drive viaduct. Nearby social service agency representatives frequently stopped by to talk with tent city residents to assess their needs and offer a variety of services. This eventually connected Donald to his current case manager at H.O.W., one of the BHH partner agencies, and his new apartment in January 2017. After years of neglecting his health in order to focus on surviving to the next day, Donald, now, works with his case manager to meet his health and wellness goals.

"IT'S HELPED WITH MY NERVES, MY BLOOD PRESSURE ... I'M MORE RELAXED, MORE SAFE. I GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP. I DON'T HAVE NO PROBLEMS LIKE I USED TO HAVE... I DON'T WORRY NO MORE."
CLIENT EVALUATION

35 CLIENTS COMPLETED EVALUATION SURVEYS THROUGHOUT THE COURSE OF THEIR FIRST 12 MONTHS. HERE ARE WHAT A FEW OF THEM SAID ABOUT WHAT THEY LIKE MOST ABOUT BHH.

"BHH HAS HELPED ME GET BACK ON MY FEET."

"I LIKE THAT IT'S NOT ALL TALK. IT'S REALLY HAPPENING."

"IT'S REALLY EFFECTIVE. MY CASE MANAGER DOES WHAT HE SAYS HE WILL."

94% reported being satisfied with the assistance they have received so far.

86% reported the program having a positive impact on their health.

In the future, this information will be supplemented with hospital records to better understand the experiences of long-term BHH clients, but for now it provides a look into what BHH clients are experiencing and how they feel the program is impacting their lives.

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

HOSPITALS & MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATIONS

AETNA
NORTHWESTERN MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
RUSH UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER
SWEDISH COVENANT HOSPITAL UI HEALTH

HOUSING PROVIDER NETWORK

AIDS FOUNDATION OF CHICAGO
AMITA HEALTH
THE BOULEVARD CENTER FOR HOUSING AND HEALTH
THE CATHOLIC CHARITIES CHICAGO HOUSE
CHICAGO LOW-INCOME HOUSING TRUST FUND
CHILDREN'S PLACE ASSOCIATION
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER
CSH
DEBORAH'S PLACE
FACING FORWARD TO END HOMELESSNESS
HEARTLAND ALLIANCE HEALTH
HEARTLAND ALLIANCE HUMAN CARE
HOUSING FORWARD
H.O.W IMPACT INNER VOICE
INSPIRATION CORPORATION
LA CASA NORTE
MEDICAL COLLEGE OF WISCONSIN
MERCY HOUSING
NORTH SIDE HOUSING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES
PRIMO CENTER FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN
RENAISSANCE SOCIAL SERVICES
SARAH'S CIRCLE
THRESHOLDS
UNITY PARENTING AND COUNSELING, INC.