HOUSING, HEALTH AND VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT
Session Objectives

1. Understand the correlation between housing conditions and patient health
2. Learn the housing landscape in California and related volunteer support for this industry
3. Recognize potential volunteer partnerships and service collaborations
4. Spur innovative discussion on topic of volunteer solutions to health & housing issues
INTRODUCTION

Trainer Biography
House Keeping
Research Demonstrating the Value of Housing as a Major Contributor to Health
Political Shift
Research on Health & Housing

Where we live, learn, work and play all have an impact on our health.
Political Shift

National Prevention Council

EMTALA

AB-361 Medi-Cal

LA Municipal Code Section 41.60

HCAHPS scores

ACA
Conditions within the Home
Housing Affordability
External Factors

HEALTH = HOUSING
Conditions within the Home

- Lead poisoning
- Water leaks, poor ventilation, dirty carpets, and pest infestation
- Exposure to very high or low temperatures
- Faulty structural features
- Residential crowding
Housing is commonly considered to be “affordable” when a family spends less than 30 percent of its income to rent or buy a residence.\(^1\)

In order to afford the FMR for a two-bedroom apartment in California, a minimum wage earner must work 130 hours per week, 52 weeks per year.\(^{12}\)
Consequences of high housing costs on low-income residents

Forces families to choose between heating, eating, and filling prescriptions.

Children have worse health

Increases risk of teen pregnancy, early drug use, and depression during adolescence.

Emotional, behavioral and academic problems among children

Many live far away from their work, requiring time and money commuting and less time engaging in health-promoting activities.
External Factors

- Physical Neighborhood Attributes
- Social and Community Attributes
Ownership Status

Housing Types

Duration of Residency

HOUSING LANDSCAPE
Housing Status

- Home Ownership
- Rental Housing
Rental Housing

- Public
- Nonprofit
- Business
Housing Type

- Homeless and emergency shelter
- Supportive housing
- Impatient rehabilitation or continuum care facilities
- Nursing homes, rest homes, and board & care
- Independent living
Duration of Residency

- Emergency
- Transitional
- Permanent
Watsonville Community Hospital
WellSpace Health
Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital
Illumination Foundation
LINC Housing

CURRENT HEALTH HOUSING STRATEGIES
Watsonville Community Hospital

Homeless Recuperative Care Center

- 12-bed homeless recuperative care center
- 24-hour shelter for those referred by medical providers and hospice or social workers
- Average length of stay is six weeks
- Annual operational costs for the care center are estimated at $260,000
13 bed interim care program
Working with the four hospital systems (Sutter, Mercy, Kaiser, UC Davis Medical Center)
Bridges the gap for homeless patients who are well enough to be discharged from the hospital but not able to meet their medical needs while homeless
Cottage Hospital

- 100-200 beds (Seasonal)
- 24 hours
- Emergency homeless shelter
- Medical care and other supportive services
LACDHS

31 units for DHS Patients in Willowbrook
Affordable permanent housing linked to appropriate services for patients
Supportive services

LINC Housing
Services

Current Volunteer Service Strategies

HOUSING & VOLUNTEER LED SOCIAL SERVICES
Volunteer Services

- Assistance with activities of daily living
- Youth education / tutoring / mentoring
- Child care
- Exercise / nutrition instruction
- Financial literacy

- Home ownership workshops
- Job readiness training
- Support groups / substance abuse counseling
- Community organizing
- Recreational & social activities

- Food banks / food delivery
- Case management
- Legal aid
- Code enforcement
- Renovations / community beautification

- Health screenings
- Dental cleanings / minor orthodontic procedures
- Transportation
- Life skills
Current Volunteer Service Strategies

- LINC Housing
- Mercy Housing
- Retirement Housing Foundation
- Nutrition Workshops
- Exercise Classes
- Community Engagement Activities
- Case Management
- Health Care Partnerships
- Partner with *Dignity Health*
  - Health Screenings
  - Chronic Disease Self Management Program
- Skilled Nursing
- Assisted Living
- Daily restaurant style meals served in dining rooms
SMALL GROUP BREAKOUT
SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY

1. Brain storm four innovative ways hospital volunteers can collaborate with housing agencies to improve patient and/or community health
2. Fully develop one position description
3. Report to workshop on ideas and positions
WHAT IS NEXT?
Sign up for a free 30-minute consultation