



Hope House of Milwaukee, Inc.

209 West Orchard - P.O. Box 04095
Milwaukee, WI 53204

Ending homelessness and creating healthy communities

THRESHOLDS PROGRAM

First Quarter: January 1 – March 31, 2012

Single men face unique challenges to overcoming the barriers of homelessness. As the needs differ, so do the objectives. The **Thresholds Program** is designed to provide short-term shelter and supportive services to chronically homeless single men. With a significantly shorter length of stay, program personnel work quickly with the men to develop gainful employment opportunities and to secure permanent housing. By providing practical, applicable information, education, and services in a condensed timeframe, men are provided intensive, “life-ready” skills in the shortest period possible. This efficient process moves men into stable, permanent housing swiftly but carefully. Moreover, they have other necessary resources and tools that will ensure that they can maintain it.

PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

The population served in the Thresholds Program is homeless single men from the city of Milwaukee. These individuals have entered the program from extremely low-income backgrounds with inadequate resources to secure housing.

During the First Quarter of 2012, 55 single men were served by the Thresholds Program. There were 43 new intakes and 42 discharges. Demographically, of the new intakes, 44% were African-American, and 54% were Caucasian. The average length of stay was 27 days.

Issues other than homelessness faced by the new intakes include Mental Illness (44%), Drug Abuse (26%), Alcohol Abuse (16%), Developmental Disabilities (7%), Physical Disabilities (33%). Many of these men faced multiple issues simultaneously.

PROGRAM GOALS, INDICATORS AND RESULTS

The Thresholds Program is based upon the active and rapid involvement of single homeless men in a variety of activities, workshops, and concrete tasks that increase knowledge, improve skills, and teach new behaviors and strategies for future success in stable, long-term housing.

GOAL 1: TO REDUCE HOMELESSNESS IN SINGLE MEN.

Indicator: *30% of participants will obtain stable housing.*

Results: *31% of participants who left Hope House obtained stable housing upon discharge.*

GOAL 2: TO INCREASE EMPLOYMENT INCOME FOR PARTICIPANTS

Indicator: *20% of the Thresholds Project participants will secure employment upon exiting the program.*

Results: *26% of the participants have successfully obtained employment upon exiting the program.*

GOAL 3: TO INCREASE GREATER SELF-DETERMINATION FOR PARTICIPANTS.

Indicator: *Adults that complete the Thresholds program will receive supportive services that prepare them for employment or housing.*

Results: *Residents received training in Tenant Landlord Relationships and Voter ID Registration rules.*

SUCCESS STORY:

Mark*, a quiet but kind gentleman, came to Hope House without income and out of options for housing. He worked closely with his case manager to apply for disability and other benefits, enabling him to save up and maintain a stable source of income. Mark always offered his assistance to staff and other guests, supporting others in need. With the help of his case manager, he moved out of Hope House and into permanent housing for individuals with low income. He also connected with a long-term case manager, who helps him maintain his housing and use his income wisely.

*Name changed for privacy