



Hope House of Milwaukee, Inc.

209 West Orchard Street
Milwaukee, WI 53204

Ending homelessness and creating healthy communities

SAFE LANDING

2016 Annual Report

The goal of the **Safe Landing program** is to rapidly move families into their own housing so that they can gain independence in a sustainable manner. Established in January 2015 with funding from the federal and city governments, the Safe Landing “rapid rehousing” program is a response to recent research that suggests a homeless family will succeed best when connected with individual housing opportunities. Using housing as the core from which a family can improve other aspects of its life, Safe Landing draws participants from the Hope House Fresh Start program, as well as other agencies serving the Milwaukee homeless.

Safe Landing is the bridge between emergency shelter and permanent housing—enabling families to move from a situation of homeless to a place of independence and stability. Case Managers at Hope House work with families to locate an apartment or house that fits their needs, and then assists each family with rental subsidies based on the family’s income. During the period in which they are receiving subsidies, families also meet regularly with case managers to assess their needs, obtain necessary resources and apply for jobs or work toward other income. When families successfully transition out of Safe Landing, they are in a more stable position and can afford to pay rent on their own.

In 2016, a total of 179 families—including 446 children and 199 adults—were served by Safe Landing. 127 families were permanently housed. 68 participants were discharged during this time, either because they found other permanent housing (88%) or because they were non-compliant with the program. The average length of time between a client’s initial intake and the date when he or she moved into housing was 28 days. 73% of clients who complete the program are expected to maintain their apartments once they leave the program after one year.

Demographically, 80% of program participants were African-American, 12% were Caucasian, 5% were bi-racial and 1% were Asian. 5% of participants also identified as Hispanic. Issues other than homelessness faced by adults in the program include Domestic Violence (34%), Mental Illness (14%), Physical Disabilities (13%), Chronic Health Conditions (9%), Developmental Disabilities (3%), and Drug Abuse (2%). Many of these clients faced multiple issues simultaneously.

PROGRAM GOALS, INDICATORS AND RESULTS

The Safe Landing program offers immediate housing and case management services with the intention of promoting long-term housing stability in participants. The goals for clients in the Safe Landing Program are as follows:

GOAL 1: TO OBTAIN AND REMAIN IN PERMANENT HOUSING

Indicator: *Residents will maintain permanent housing for at least 3 months.*

Results: **Out of the 127 families who secured permanent housing, 100% maintained their housing for at least 3 months.**

Indicator: *Residents will work to increase income.*

Results: 100% of program participants worked with their case managers to search for jobs or apply for benefits.

GOAL 2: TO ACHIEVE GREATER SELF-DETERMINATION

Indicator: *Residents will pay utility bills and rent as required monthly.*

Results: 96% of residents have paid all utility bills and rent as required.

GOAL 3: TO INCREASE SKILLS AND/OR INCOME

Indicator: *Residents will complete a monthly budget.*

Results: 100% of families completed a monthly budget.

Indicator: *Residents will look for employment or work towards benefits as determined by case manager and resident.*

Results: 31% have increased their income through employment.

Results: 77% have sustained income through employment and/or non-cash benefits.