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## Responding to Chronic Homelessness Project Profile

Focus on: **Health Related Services**

Focus on: **Housing**

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### Skid Row Collaborative Los Angeles, CA

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#### **Activity Description**

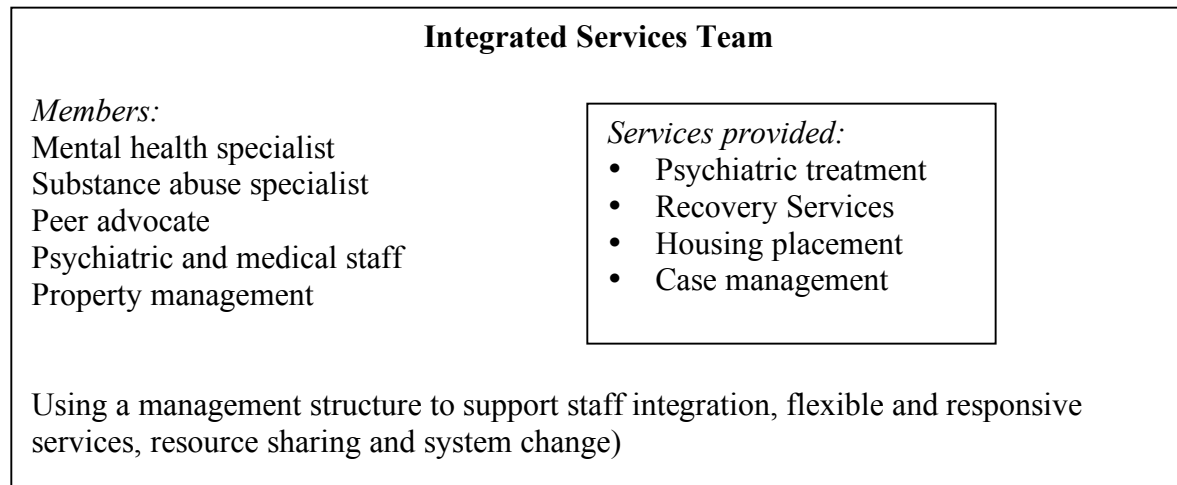
*Why:* In the area of downtown Los Angeles called “Skid Row,” there is a large street homeless population with disabilities such as mental illness, a large presence of missions and social services agencies and some single-room occupancy hotels, the City’s most “affordable” housing. However, there is a real lack of affordable housing, and of housing appropriate for chronically homeless people – permanent supportive housing. Service provision between providers was only informally coordinated.

*What:* The Skid Row Collaborative is a community-wide strategy that addresses the needs of chronically homeless and disabled individuals with a collaborative approach to resolving the problems of Los Angeles’ most vulnerable citizens. The Collaborative aims to provide 62 chronically homeless individuals with stable housing, mental health and substance abuse services, primary healthcare and veterans’ services using an integrated multidisciplinary team. Its focus on housing placement is to match the individual with the type of permanent housing best suited to individual need: low demand Safe Haven, community enriched project-based or scattered site.

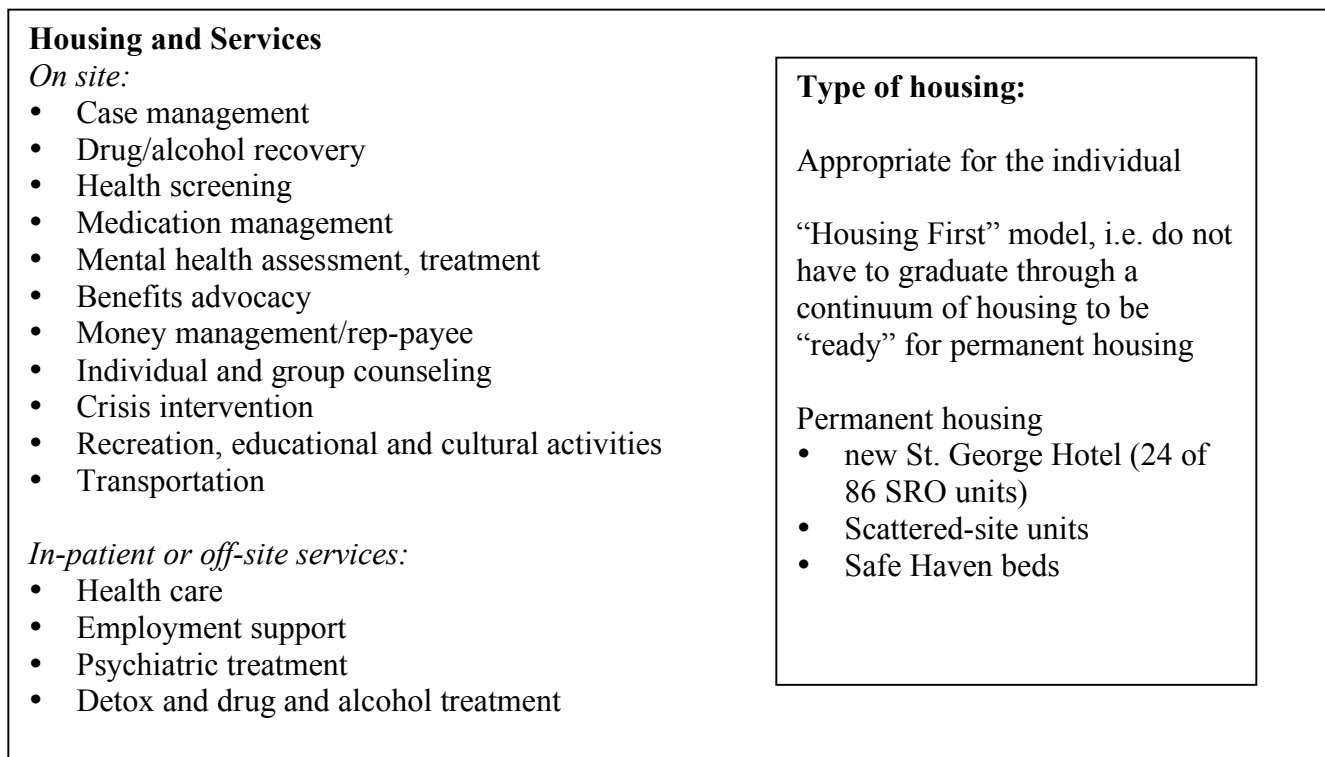
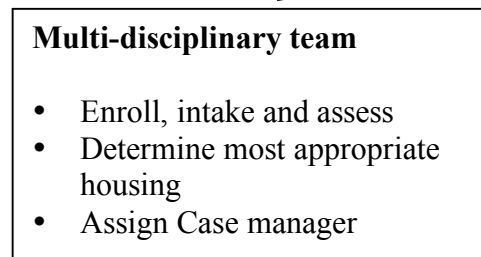
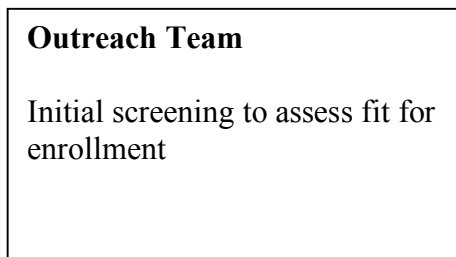
*Partners:* A partnership of 12 public and private non-profit agencies:

- Skid Row Housing Trust
- Lamp Community
- County of LA Dept. of Mental Health
- JWCH Institute
- Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles
- Homeless Healthcare Los Angeles
- Behavioral Health Services
- Clinica Oscar Romero
- GLA Veterans Healthcare System
- Corporation for Supportive Housing
- Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority
- New Directions, Inc.

*Significant Program Design Features:*



Project Entry



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### **Selected Funding Sources**

Collaborative Initiative to Help End Chronic Homelessness (HHS, HUD, VA) grant  
HUD Continuum of Care Shelter Plus Care program  
MediCal reimbursements  
Local Mental Health Block Grant funds  
State of California AB34 funds  
In-kind contributions, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health  
In-kind services, Homeless Health Care Los Angeles  
In-kind services, Behavioral Health Services, Inc.  
In-kind services, JWCH Institute  
In-kind services, New Directions  
In-kind services, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority  
In-kind services, Corporation for Supportive Housing  
Contribution of Safe Haven units and permanent studio units at Lamp Lodge from Lamp Community  
Equity from 9% low-income housing tax credit equity provided by the Enterprise Social  
Investment Corp.  
Community Development Commission of Los Angeles County  
Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco, Affordable Housing Program grant through Citibank  
General partner loan  
Deferred developer fee  
Los Angeles Housing Department  
General partners contribution  
Soft loan construction loan interest  
Private sources

### **Outcomes**

Since project began in December, 2003:

- Total of 67 participants have been enrolled; 11 no longer enrolled due to variety of circumstance including death, incarceration and recidivism
- 56 participants are actively receiving housing and services (target is 62 participants)
- Inter- and intra-agency systems have been improved to give participants direct access to services between partnering agencies
- Many crises that could have led to loss of housing and return to homelessness have been mitigated

### **Places Where Similar Work is Underway**

San Francisco, Project Coming Home

Santa Clara County: Off the Streets Team and Navigator Project

Most AB-34 Funded Programs

Frequent Users Initiative Programs, a joint initiative of The California Endowment and the California HealthCare Foundation (case management, wraparound services and housing for frequent users of the emergency rooms) in Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Alameda, Los Angeles, Sacramento and Tulare Counties)