Preserving Housing & Preventing Homelessness for People with Criminal Charges and Convictions

A three-part CLE* webinar series for public defender offices and criminal defense attorneys

At each stage of a criminal proceeding, your clients face potential consequences that may put their current housing or ability to obtain future subsidized housing at risk. This webinar series provides foundational information about the homeless system of care, risks to housing loss prior to conviction, and navigating reentry housing with a criminal record.

**Exploring the Intersection of Homelessness and the Criminal Legal System**

**October 4, 2023 @ 2-3pm PST [Zoom Registration Link]**

The homeless system Continuum of Care (CoC) is an intricate web of providers and funding streams with various rules, regulations, and options for people experiencing homelessness. This 101-type CLE will explain how the system works; different types of housing (such as Rapid Rehousing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and public housing) and who is eligible for it; and how to work with your clients to understand their housing needs and preferences.

**Pre-Conviction Housing Preservation**

**November 15, 2023 @ 2-3pm PST [Zoom Registration Link]**

From the moment of arrest proceeding through to conviction, and particularly time spent incarcerated pre-trial, your client may be at risk for housing loss. Learn about how “institutional stays” may affect housing and what arguments may be presented to best advocate for your client. The webinar will also cover the impact of some plea deals on housing options, how to identify and collaborate with your local CoC, and how to advocate with landlords and property owners to prevent housing loss.

**Post-Sentencing Housing Opportunities & Barriers**

**February 7, 2024 @ 1-2pm PST [Zoom Registration Link]**

Once your client has a criminal record – regardless of whether it is arrest-only, probation, or time served – they face barriers to both subsidized and unsubsidized housing. In this webinar, we will discuss repercussions for people on the sex offender registry, obstacles to federal public housing and vouchers, and how to determine the eligibility criteria for various vouchers and programs. We will revisit the CoC and explain the process of Coordinated Entry, a system designed to connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness with housing options, supportive services, and mainstream benefits.

**Attend one, two, or all three webinars. CLEs are open exclusively to staff and contractors of California Public Defender Offices and California-licensed criminal defense attorneys.**

*1 hour of MCLE credit per webinar is approved by the CA State Bar.

To receive updates about this CLE series and other resources to improve housing outcomes for people with criminal records, sign up for the Homebase Criminal Legal System Initiative (CLSI) newsletter [HERE].