



Housing and Services
Resource Center

**Enhancing Housing Stability for Individuals with
TBI at Risk for and Experiencing Homelessness**

March 27th, 2024
Webinar

Welcome



Housing and Services
Resource Center

Webinar is hosted by the
Housing and Services Resource Center (HSRC)

Facilitator

Lori Gerhard, Director, Office for Interagency Innovations,
Administration for Community Living (ACL)

Agenda

- Welcome and Housekeeping
- Interactive Poll
- The Lived Experience
- Experience of Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury at Risk for or Experiencing Homelessness
- Programs and Services and the Collaborations Needed to Coordinate Resources
- Colorado Model of Inclusive Permanent Supportive Housing for Individuals with TBI
- Q&A
- Closing

Instructions for Zoom

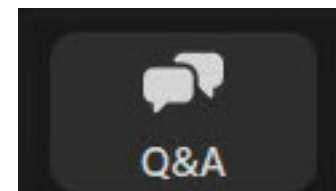
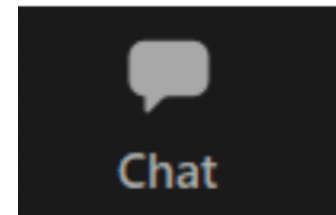
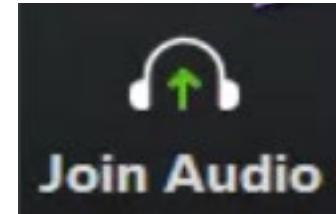
Audio Options

- Use your computer speakers, **OR** dial in using the phone number in your registration email.
- All participants are muted.

Questions and Comments

- Please actively use chat throughout the meeting, especially for your comments.
- To ask a presenter a question, please use the Q&A function.

Or, send your question or comment via email to HSRC@ACL.HHS.GOV



Accessibility

Maximizing view of ASL interpreters

- Enlarge view of ASL interpreter by “pinning” them:
Click on their video window and select the Pin icon.

Screen Reader Users: Reduce unwanted chatter

- Request speech on demand:
Insert, Spacebar, “S”

Poll

Question: What is your agency's experience in providing services and supports to individuals with TBI?

- We provide direct services and supports to individuals with TBI.
- We partner with agencies that provide services and supports to individuals with TBI.
- We partner with housing agencies that provide supportive housing for individuals with TBI.
- We are a housing agency that provides supportive housing for individuals with TBI.
- We are a housing agency that partners with a provider of services and supports to individuals with TBI.
- We are a housing agency that provides supportive housing, but I am unsure how we provide services for individuals with TBI and am interested in learning.
- None – We do not provide services and supports or partner with agencies that provide them to individuals with TBI.
- None – I am an individual, not associated with an agency.



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acl.gov/HousingAndServices [#HousingResources](https://twitter.com/HousingResources)



Poll Results

Presenters

Jeff Larcomb

Person with lived experience

Caitlin Synovec, Consultant

National Association of State Head Injury Administrators (NASHIA)

Mikalia Gray, CBIST, Vice President of Operations

Brain Injury Alliance Colorado (BIAC)

Placeholder (Jeff Larcomb)

Where does homelessness happen?

- **Shelter/Mission** - Organized shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness
- **Vehicles**
- **Street/Outside**
- **Abandoned Buildings** – or other places generally not considered safe or fit for occupancy
- **Encampments** – typically including: resident sleeping outside in tents or other physical structures, storing belongings in the same location for a sustained period
- **Single-Room Occupancy (SRO)/Hotels/Motels** - or other day-to-day paid housing

Where does homelessness happen? (cont'd)

- **Transitional Housing** – time-limited housing intended to support a transition to permanent housing
- **Exiting Incarceration** – with no plans for permanent housing or shelter
- **Exiting Treatment** – with no plans for permanent housing or shelter
- **Supportive Housing** – permanent or long-term option designed to provide housing assistance paired with supportive services
- **Couch Surfing (Doubled Up)** - or living with others in an otherwise temporary arrangement
- **At-Risk of Homelessness** – such as facing eviction or other unstable situations

What is a brain injury?

An **acquired brain injury** (ABI) is an injury to the brain that is not hereditary, congenital, degenerative, or induced by birth trauma, and occurs internally.

- E.g., lack of oxygen, stroke



A **traumatic brain injury** (TBI) is defined as an alteration in brain function, or other evidence of brain pathology, caused by an external force.

- E.g., being hit on the head, car or bike accident

Populations At Higher Risk for Brain Injury

Experiencing homelessness

Survivors of domestic violence and interpersonal violence

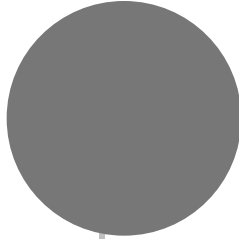
Incarcerated or engaged with the criminal justice system

Adults living in poverty

Underserved rural and frontier communities

Veterans, including dishonorably discharged

People who use drugs and alcohol



51% - 92% of those experiencing homelessness experienced their first TBI ***before*** their first experience of homelessness or marginal housing

Brain Injury as a Contributor to Homelessness

Decreased
income

Need for
community
supports

Lack of
affordable and
accessible
housing

Challenges in
returning to work
and life roles

Cognitive
impacts may be
undetected

Transitioning out of Homelessness with a TBI

Systems are complicated to navigate

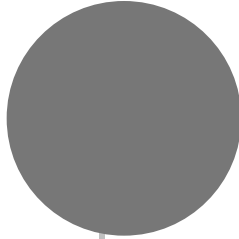
Worsening health, cognition, and function

Lack of affordable and accessible housing

Shelters and services not equipped to accommodate

Restricted environments prevent function

Concerns about functional ability prevent housing consideration



People with cognitive impairment are likely to spend more time unhoused than those without cognitive impairment.

Addressing Homelessness and Brain Injury

Prevention


- Screening for SDOH
- Assess and address cognition and executive function
- Case management supports early to mitigate housing and income
- Changing models to be applicable to those without support systems and caregivers

Response

- Screening for BI in homeless services
- Modify systems and services to accommodate cognitive effects
- Collaboration of homeless, brain injury, and housing services
- Access to services to address impacts of brain injury

Chat Question

What preventative or responsive service might your agency provide to individuals with TBI?



Valor on the Fax





Partners

Colorado Division of Housing

Denver Housing Authority

Beaux Simone Consulting

Brothers Redevelopment

Colorado Housing and Finance Authority

MINDSOURCE

City of Denver

Neighborhood Association

Shop Works Architecture

Elements Furniture

City of Denver

Denver Office of Housing Stability

Housing and Urban Development

Gelli's Fridge

The Fax Partnership

Calcon Construction



Qualification Criteria

A

- Less than 30% AMI
- Sex offender registration
- Meth production on government housing property.
- Homicide 10 years
- Arson 5 years

B

- Preference points: 1-7
- Disability
- Chronic Homelessness
- Literal Homelessness
- Alignment with services provided

Who We Are

- 125 people
- Newborn- 70s
- 40 children
- Many races, ethnicities, experiences



“I’m really jazzed about this place,” says resident Ken Stansberry in one of Valor’s gardens. Divorce and health issues had left him unhoused for two years, but he says, “the good Lord’s blessed me.”



Services on site

- Resource Navigation
- Mental health (individual, family, group)
- Substance Use interventions
- Classes & workshops
- Pick up for Rec Programs
- Peer Mentorship
- Self-Management
- Education Consultation
- Re-entry Services



Homelessness

- 1) Provide multiple common areas to maximize resident choice and safety
- 2) Bedroom and closet doors 1 vs 2 bed.
- 3) Long line of sight options (Apt Doors)
- 4) Supply a central stairs to encourage social engagement
- 5) Laundry Rooms
- 6) Elevated outdoor space

Brain Injury

- 1) Dimmable lights
- 2) Neutral/soft color palettes
- 3) Careful transitions in floorings
- 4) Large numbers and colors (reminder nooks)
- 5) Rocking chairs/swings
- 6) Hearing/vision impaired doorbells

Furniture

- 1) Bedbug resistant mattresses
- 2) Single pour frames
- 3) Tear and mark resistant
- 4) Heavy outdoor furniture

“Trauma-informed design is about integrating the principles of trauma-informed care into design with the goal of creating physical spaces that promote safety, well-being and healing.”
-Forbes





Chat Question

What is a major trend you are seeing in terms of unmet needs for individuals with TBI?



Q&A

[placeholder ... slides will be down]



OSU TBI-ID Method

The [Ohio State University Traumatic Brain Injury \(TBI\) Identification Method \(OSU TBI-ID\)](#) is a standardized procedure for eliciting lifetime history of TBI via a structured interview.

- Based on Center for Disease Control and Prevention case definitions and recommendations for TBI surveillance.
- Designed to use self- or proxy-reports to elicit summary indices reflecting TBI's occurring over a person's lifetime.
- Self-report is not an ideal, but it is for now the gold standard for both research and clinical uses.
- [Online training](#) available on the OSU TBI-ID page.

Visit HSRC TBI Webpage



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I NEED HOUSING OR SERVICES HELP

Traumatic Brain Injury Partnerships Resources

Traumatic Brain Injury

A TBI can happen when an external force causes damage to the brain. Common causes of TBI include falls, automobile accidents, and sports injuries. There are many different names for TBI such as concussion, Shaken Baby Syndrome, head injury, or anoxia (loss of oxygen) due to trauma. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2020 there were approximately 214,110 TBI-related hospitalizations and 69,473 TBI-related deaths in 2021. Not included in these estimates are TBIs treated in primary care or urgent case, TBIs sustained by military service members, TBIs treated in the emergency department only, and TBIs that are untreated.

TBI can affect various aspects of a person's life. People living with TBI and their families often require a range of services and supports to allow an individual to maintain a safe and secure environment in the housing setting of their choice. Individual needs are different and can change over time, so it is important that systems provide person-centered services and supports.

Related Links

- [What's New](#)
- [Accessible, Affordable Housing](#)
- [Fair Housing](#)
- [Homelessness](#)
- [Supportive Services](#)
- [Transitions Out of Institutions](#)
- [Tribal Housing](#)

▼ [Building Partnerships to Enhance Housing Stability for People with Traumatic Brain Injury](#)

<https://acl.gov/HousingAndServices/traumatic-brain-injury-partnerships-resources>

ACL Additional Resources for Individuals with TBI

- [TBI Technical Assistance and Resource Center \(TBI TARC\)](#) helps State Partnership Program grantees promote access to integrated, coordinated services and supports for people with TBI, their families, and caregivers. For more information, email tbitarc@hsri.org.
- [ACL's Traumatic Brain Injury](#) webpage contains additional learning and resource materials to download. Some examples include:
 - [Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board Toolkit](#).
 - [Building up TBI Systems](#).
 - [Behavioral Health Guide: Considerations for Best Practices for Children, Youth, and Adults with TBI](#).
- [Model Systems](#) programs in traumatic brain injury (TBIMS), as well as in spinal cord injury (SCIMS) and burn injury (BMS), provide a coordinated system of rehabilitation and care and conduct research on recovery and long-term outcomes.

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<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/march2724>

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- 1. Send your innovations and suggestions to us**
at hsrc@acl.hhs.gov
- 2. Sign up for periodic HSRC emails**
at <https://cloud.connect.hhs.gov/acl-subscriptions>

Acknowledgment



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