

# What is Rapid Re-Housing?

## Strategy Overview

Rapid re-housing is a cost-effective strategy to help families successfully exit homelessness and maintain permanent housing by integrating three components: employment assistance, case management, and housing services.<sup>1,2</sup> Families can most efficiently access rapid re-housing through coordinated entry.<sup>3</sup> Eligibility criteria for rapid re-housing vary between communities. Rapid re-housing can be successful for families meeting HUD's definition of homelessness, often regardless of income.<sup>4</sup>

## Family Impact

Preliminary findings from national outcomes of families who received rapid re-housing are promising.<sup>5,6</sup>

# 5 to 6

Months is how long many families are receiving rental assistance<sup>7,8,9</sup>

# 91%

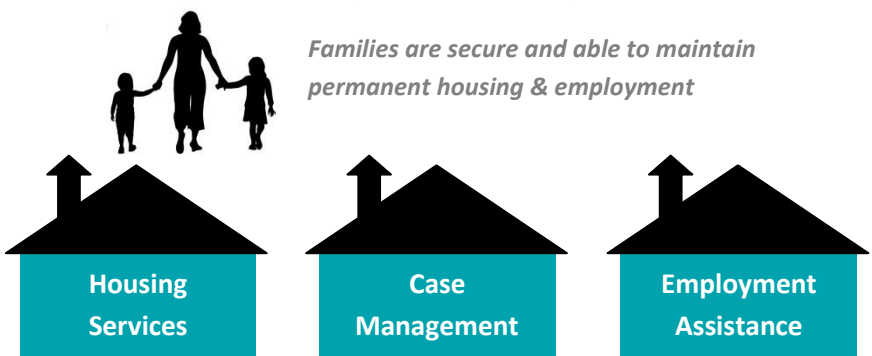
Of families receiving rapid re-housing exited homelessness for permanent housing<sup>10</sup>



More cost-effective compared to emergency shelter or transitional housing<sup>11</sup>

## Rapid Re-Housing

*Families are secure and able to maintain permanent housing & employment*



- Housing Services**
  - Provides rental subsidy
  - Partners with landlords
  - Negotiates leases
- Case Management**
  - Tailors services to the unique needs of each family as needed
  - Uses a coordinated cross-systems partnerships approach
  - Connections to mainstream systems (e.g., K-12 education, housing, and health care)
- Employment Assistance**
  - Helps families find and maintain employment
  - Connects to training and employment programs with a career path

## National Case Studies

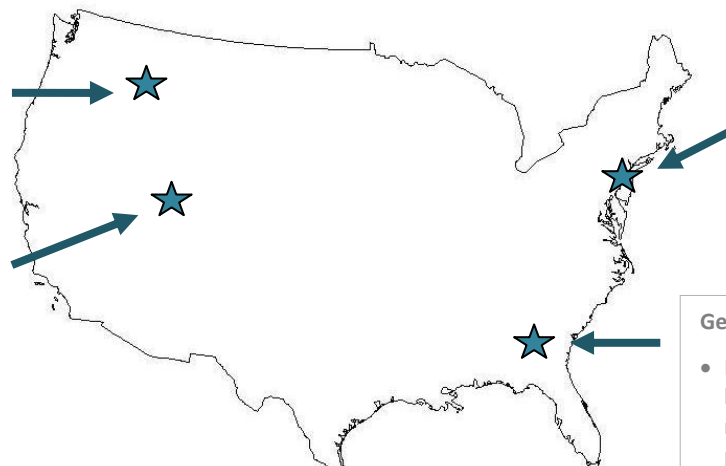
More than 30 counties nationally have implemented rapid re-housing in their communities. Results are encouraging, and this model appears to meet the complex housing needs of the majority of families.<sup>12</sup>

### Idaho | CATCH Program

- 86% of families can pay their own rent after 6 months.<sup>13</sup>

### Utah | The Road Home

- Length of stay in emergency shelter declined from 71 to 26 days.<sup>14</sup>



### New Jersey | Mercer County

- Families were 3.5 times more likely to be employed at exit when compared to transitional housing.<sup>15</sup>
- 94% of families remained stably housed after 3 years.<sup>16</sup>

### Georgia | Homelessness Recurrence

- People were 4.7 & 4.0 times more likely to return to homelessness when not served by rapid re-housing programs.<sup>17</sup>

## Learn More About Rapid Re-Housing:

Kelly Zelenka, Director: [Kelly.Zelenka@BuildingChanges.org](mailto:Kelly.Zelenka@BuildingChanges.org), 206.805.6140

This document can be found online at:



<http://www.buildingchanges.org/library-type/other/item/628-what-is-rapid-re-housing?>

## About Building Changes

Building Changes serves as an intermediary among philanthropy, government agencies, and service providers, seeding and nurturing fundamental change in the ways our communities collaborate to address homelessness.



Visit our website: [BuildingChanges.org](http://BuildingChanges.org)



Follow us on Twitter: [twitter.com/BuildingChanges](https://twitter.com/BuildingChanges)



Like us on Facebook: [facebook.com/BuildingChanges](https://facebook.com/BuildingChanges)

---

## Endnotes

- <sup>1</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness. (2012). Rapid re-housing: Successfully ending family homelessness. Retrieved from: <http://www.endhomelessness.org/library/entry/rapid-re-housing-successfully-ending-family-homelessness>.
- <sup>2</sup> Georgia Department of Community Affairs. (n.d.) DCA Rapid Re-Housing Overview. Retrieved from: [http://www.dca.ga.gov/housing/specialneeds/programs/documents/RapidRe-HousingOverview\\_000.pdf](http://www.dca.ga.gov/housing/specialneeds/programs/documents/RapidRe-HousingOverview_000.pdf).
- <sup>3</sup> Center for Capacity Building. (2011). One way in: The advantages of introducing system-wide coordinated entry for homeless families. National Alliance to End Homelessness. Retrieved from: [http://b.3cdn.net/naeh/3707099be028a72f67\\_06m6bx6g9.pdf](http://b.3cdn.net/naeh/3707099be028a72f67_06m6bx6g9.pdf).
- <sup>4</sup> U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development. (2012). HUD Guidance: Criteria and recordkeeping requirements for definition of homeless. Office of Community Planning and Development. OneCPD Resource Exchange. Retrieved from: <https://www.onecpd.info/resource/1974/criteria-and-recordkeeping-requirements-for-definition-of-homeless>.
- <sup>5</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness. Rapid re-housing: Successfully ending family homelessness. p.2.
- <sup>6</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness. (2013). Rapid Re-Housing Successes. Retrieved from: <http://www.endhomelessness.org/library/entry/rapid-re-housing-successes>.
- <sup>7</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness. (2013). Promising Strategy: Idaho Department of Health and Welfare and the CATCH Program. Retrieved from: <http://www.endhomelessness.org/library/entry/promising-strategy-idaho-department-of-health-and-welfare-and-the-catch-pro>.
- <sup>8</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness. (2013). Utah Workforce Services and The Road Home: A public/private partnership to end family homelessness. Retrieved from: <http://www.endhomelessness.org/library/entry/utah-workforce-services-and-the-road-home-a-public-private-partnership-to-e>.
- <sup>9</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness. (2013). Promising strategies: Mercer County board of social services and Mercer alliance to end homelessness. Retrieved from: <http://www.endhomelessness.org/library/entry/promising-strategies-mercer-county-board-of-social-services-and-mercer-alli>.
- <sup>10</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness. Rapid re-housing: Successfully ending family homelessness. p.2.
- <sup>11</sup> McDivitt, K. M. (n.d.) Retooling transitional Housing. National Alliance to End Homelessness. PowerPoint slide deck. slide 10. Retrieved from: [http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0CCwQFjAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fb.3cdn.net%2Fnaeh%2F9a6996e7c718d624fe\\_vm6blab2.pptx&ei=A\\_mLUZSIIcrTigLPh4DoDw&usq=AFQjCNFBIqfz1wGpMxQyTgCKtlkP1FKn5g](http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=0CCwQFjAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fb.3cdn.net%2Fnaeh%2F9a6996e7c718d624fe_vm6blab2.pptx&ei=A_mLUZSIIcrTigLPh4DoDw&usq=AFQjCNFBIqfz1wGpMxQyTgCKtlkP1FKn5g).
- <sup>12</sup> Center for Capacity Building. p.6.
- <sup>13</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness. Promising Strategy: Idaho Department of Health and Welfare and the CATCH Program. p.3.
- <sup>14</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness. Utah Workforce Services and The Road Home: A public/private partnership to end family homelessness. p.3.
- <sup>15</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness. (2013). Promising strategies: Mercer County board of social services and Mercer alliance to end homelessness. p.5.
- <sup>16</sup> Herb Levine, personal communication, April 18, 2013.
- <sup>17</sup> State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless, Georgia Department of Community Affairs. (2013). Homelessness Recurrence in Georgia: Descriptive Statistics, Risk Factors, and Contextualized Outcome Measurement. Retrieved from: <http://www.dca.state.ga.us/housing/specialneeds/programs/downloads/HomelessnessRecurrenceInGeorgia.pdf>