



Housing and Services
Resource Center

Housing and Services Partnership Accelerator

Learning Track Session 2: Braiding Funding

April 18, 2024

Agenda

- **Braiding Funding**
- **States Lead the Way**
 - Arizona
- **Breakout Discussion Groups**
 - Q&A for Arizona
 - Topic Questions
- **Closing**

**Please rename
your Zoom
square to:**

Name, state

Core Elements of a Braiding Strategy

A braiding strategy has:

- **A shared purpose/goal** along with identification of the **housing, tenancy services, and supportive services** that individuals need for that goal
 - For example, purpose is transition to the community from an institution, shelter, or unsheltered homelessness; types of assistance that individuals tend to need and want for a transition: housing, rental assistance, wraparound, assistive technology, transportation, etc.
- **Funding sources** for those housing, tenancy services, and supportive services
 - Some funding goes to program(s) and others stay with the individual
- **Organizations** that deliver the housing, tenancy services, and supportive services
- **Apparatus(es)/infrastructure** to support braiding operations across organizations and systems (e.g., billing, data, provider capacity, communications)
- **Alignment** of program and funding requirements, as possible and needed

Braiding Funding

Dr. Richard Cho

Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary,
US Department of Housing and Urban
Development



States Lead the Way

Arizona

Elizabeth da Costa, Director of Housing,
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment
System (AHCCCS)

Margaret Adams, Special Projects
Administrator, Office of Homeless
Solutions, City of Phoenix





Arizona Braided Funding Medicaid Housing and Supports

April 18, 2024

Core Elements of Braided Funding Model

- Clearly Defined Purpose
- Identification of Interventions
 - Rental Assistance
 - Supportive Services
 - Deposit Assistance
 - Furniture
- Identify Fund Sources
- Identify Partner Organizations
- Alignment of Administrative Requirements (wherever possible)



Arizona Medicaid Housing Landscape

Arnold v. Sarn settlement

“Increase number of supportive housing slots in Maricopa County”

AHCCCS Housing Program

- State Appropriated General Fund \$29 Million
- Provides 2500 AHCCCS members with a rental subsidy

Serious Mental Illness (SMI) Housing Trust Fund

- AHCCCS allocation from unclaimed property \$2 Million
- Acquisition and renovation of units dedicated to members with SMI
- 130 properties under CC&R, supporting nearly 700 members

Supportive Services – ACOM 448

- AHCCCS uses contracts with Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) for the provision of supportive housing services
- Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (RBHAs) are responsible for ensuring supportive services are implemented with fidelity to the SAMHSA Evidence Based Practice for PSH

Example of Arizona Braiding

Purpose: Provide vulnerable populations with resources to be able to reside in the community of their choice, in the least restrictive setting.

Strategy: Leverage Medicaid supportive services to receive housing choice vouchers from Public Housing Authorities and be able to target housing resources to vulnerable populations served within the Arizona healthcare system.

Identify Fund Source: City of Phoenix HCVs, Medicaid covered services, Valley of the Sun United Way for incidentals

Identify Partner Organizations: Medicaid providers known for providing community-based services

Result: City of Phoenix 275 Project

- Phoenix PHA allocated 275 vouchers
- Health Plan refers High-Cost High-Need member to the Medicaid Provider. Medicaid provider assists the member with document readiness and referral to HCV
- Medicaid provider encounters supportive services to Medicaid to provide pre-tenancy and tenancy sustaining services

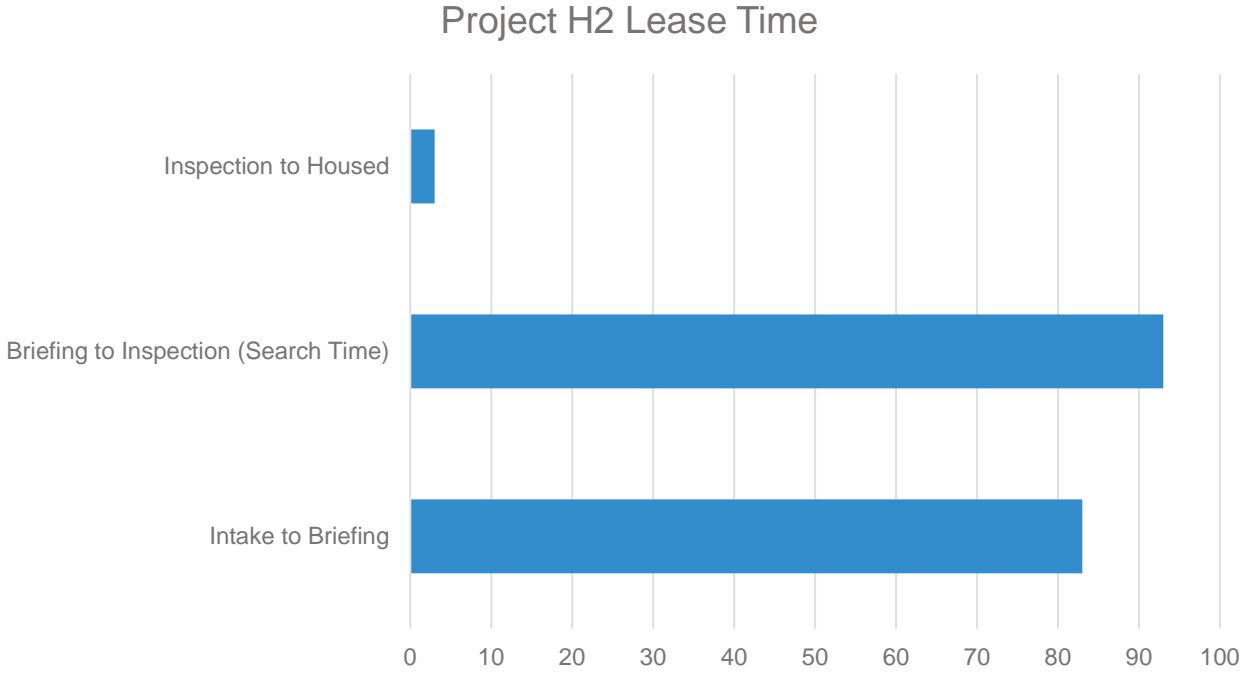


Medicaid Wraparound Housing Services

Medicaid Wraparound Housing Services		
Medicaid Covered Behavioral Health Services	Related Pre-Housing Activities (Attain Housing)	Related Activities In Housing (Sustain Housing)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Management and Coordination of Care (T1016) • Pre-Employment Training (H2027) • Supportive Employment (H2025) • Individual & Family Peer Support (H0038) • Group Peer Support (H0038HQ) • Health Promotion (H0025) • Medication Assistance (H0034) • Substance Use Counseling (H0004) • Skills Training and Development (H2014) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Securing ID and Documents • Completing Housing Applications • Understanding Lease/Legal Notices • Housing Search • Disability Accommodation Requests • Move-In Coordination • Attending Housing Briefings • Budgeting and Financial Planning • Coaching for Interviews, Landlord Visits or Housing Negotiations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellness Visits • Crisis/Conflict Management • Budgeting • Pre- and Post-Employment Supports • Benefit Applications • Life Skills • Connection to Family, Natural and Community Supports • Landlord and Neighbor Communication • Substance Use Disorder Treatment Supports • Lease Renewal

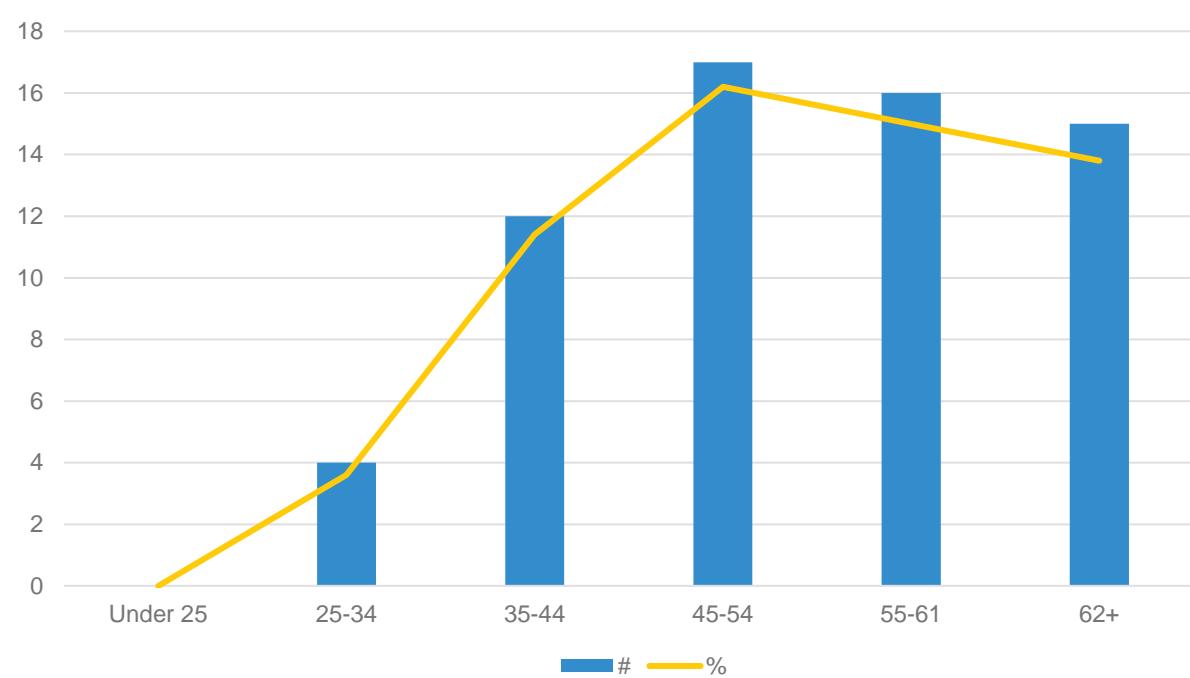
Project H2

- Pilot, focused on target area
- SMI Housing Trust Fund for bridge subsidy – legislative revision
- PHA expansion
- Leverage PATH and Medicaid support services

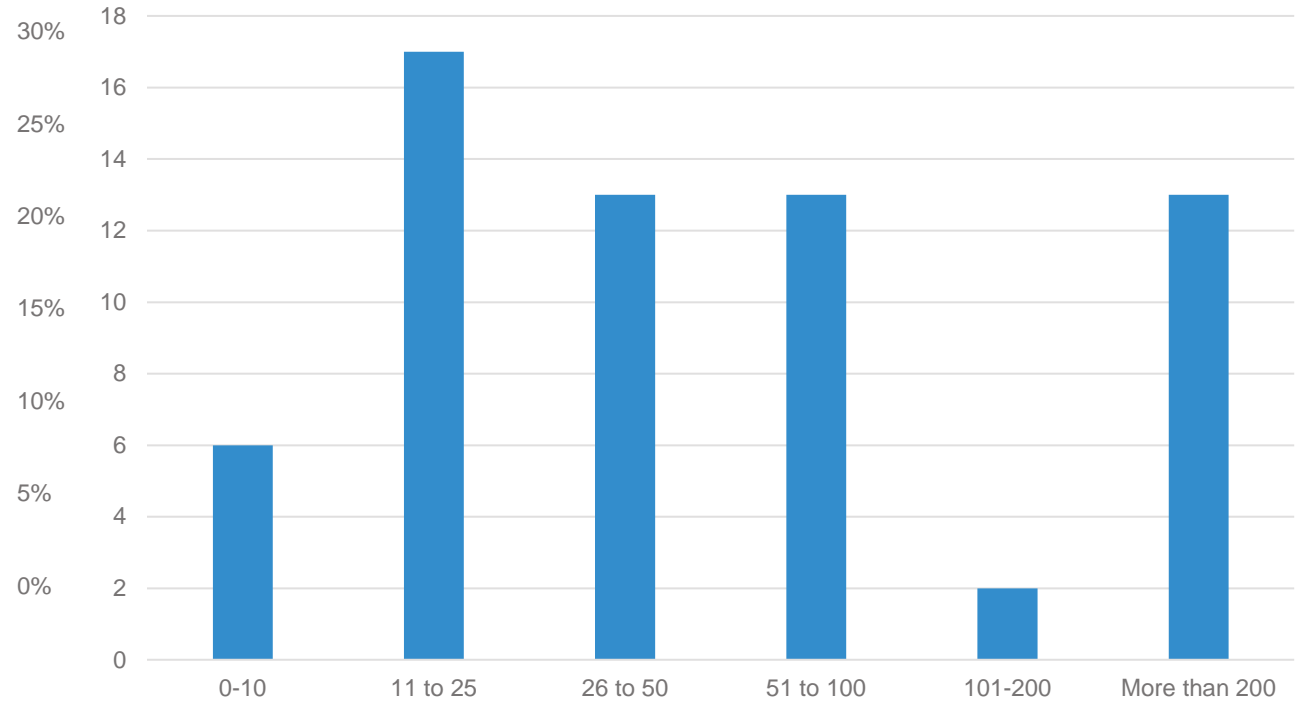


Project H2 – Population HMIS Data

Project H2 - Age of those served



HMIS Entries for Those Served



Length of Time Homeless (HMIS) Average	9.9 Years
Shelter Stays (combined total)	3272

Challenges

- Services Coordination and Accountability
- Data and Outcomes
- Referrals from Coordinated Entry
- Project Vacancies
- Lack of Shared Goals and Communication
- Populations and Priorities – Lack of Shared Definitions



Bridge to Permanency Braiding Examples

Updates to the SMI Housing Trust Fund

41-3955.01. Seriously mentally ill housing trust fund; purpose; report

A. The seriously mentally ill housing trust fund is established. The director of the department of health services shall administer the fund. The fund consists of monies received pursuant to section 44-313 and investment earnings.

B. On notice from the department of health services, the state treasurer shall invest and divest monies in the fund as provided by section 35-313, and monies earned from investment shall be credited to the fund.

C. Fund monies shall be spent on approval of the department of health services solely for housing projects **AND RENTAL ASSISTANCE** for ~~the~~ seriously mentally ill **PERSONS**.

Language from PHA Contract

LINKAGE BONUS. A one time only Linkage Bonus of \$200.00 per household will be paid to the Contractor when any participant moves off the Bridge Voucher Program and on to the mainstream Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program or Conventional Housing program. The Linkage Bonus will be paid within fourteen (14) days of the submission of evidence that the participant has moved to the Section 8 program.

Example from MHBG ARPA Grant (#1)

The position will maintain a caseload no larger than 25 members. This position is 33% allocated to the program to support the activities and administrative duties necessary to assist the members to maintain their housing. The remainder of the time is expected to be funded through covered services provided to the members in housing settings. Caseload assignment will be monitored by the supervisory staff through the electronic health record reporting.

Month 1-12 = \$18,912.04

Month 13-24 = \$19,479.40

Month 25-30 = \$10,031.89

Total = \$48,423.33

***Estimated increase of 3% in month 13 and 25**

Example from MHBG ARPA Grant (#2)

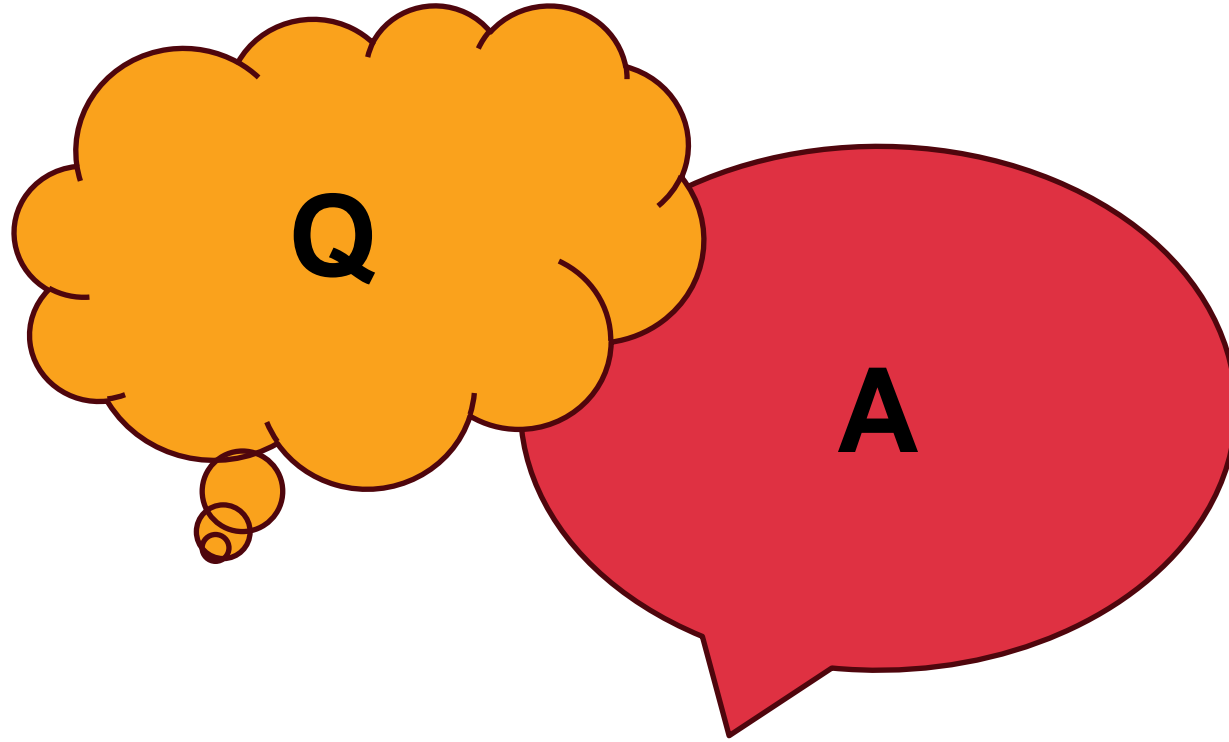
The SMI Housing Specialist is on a tiered FTE over the course of the funding period with the intent of transitioning the staff to encountering. The FTE is requested at 100% MHBG funded for April 2023 through December 2024 with 0% encountering. The FTE is to decrease to 90% FTE MHBG funded and 10% encountering effective January 2025 through June 2025. The FTE is to decrease to 75% and 25% encountering effective July 2025 through September 2025. Agency will work closely with the Health Plan to ensure encountering feasibility.

Housing and Health Opportunities

- State, Municipality, and CoC Alignment
- Outreach and Education
- Short-Term Rental Assistance
- Moving Costs
- Home Remediation and Modification
- Pre-Tenancy and Tenancy-Sustaining Supports
 - HRSN Screening Tool and Housing Care Plan
 - PMPM Rate
 - Clear reporting requirements, focused on member outcomes

Thank You.

Q&A with Arizona



Discussion Breakouts

- 3 breakout rooms
 - CA, MA and NC (with AZ)
 - DC, MN, and WA (with AZ)
 - HI and MD (with AZ)
- Facilitators will lead
- 45 minutes -- all return at 4:55 pm ET

Camera Preferences

States -- On
Federal -- Off

HSPA Upcoming Events

Event	Date
Session 3	May 16
Session 4	June 20
Session 5	July 18
Session 6	August 15

TA Community

- [Events](#) has session materials
 - Coming soon: recordings from today
- [General discussion board](#)
 - Give input on the “core elements” framework
- [State discussion boards](#)
 - Ask your question and connect!!
- [Resources](#)
 - Discover our new HSPA master list of resources

The screenshot displays the TA Community website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the 'NO WRONG DOOR' logo and a tagline: 'A collaboration space for No Wrong Door (NWD) community and partners'. The navigation menu includes links for HOME, STAY UP-TO-DATE, NWD RESOURCE HUB, COVID-19 AND VACCINE ACCESS, CARE TRANSITIONS COMMUNITY, NWD/ADRC COMMUNITY, VDC COMMUNITY, CCH NATIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY, and HOUSING & SERVICES PARTNERSHIP ACCELERATOR. A search bar is located below the navigation menu.

The main content area shows the event details for 'HSPA Learning Track 1A'. The event is scheduled for Thursday, March 14, from 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM EDT (Eastern Daylight Time). It is organized by Esther Wright. A note indicates that users should get their Zoom link by using the registration link below. There is an 'Add to calendar' button.

The 'Learning Track Focus' section describes the event's theme: 'Robust, sustaining partnerships are the backbone for aligning/coordinating housing, health, and social care supports that are person-centered and improve housing stability, health, and well-being. This featured Massachusetts and North Carolina. There were 3 breakout groups, each recorded separately.'

Three breakout groups are listed:

- A--Partnerships between Medicaid services and state/local housing agencies to expand access to community-based living opportunities for states' priority populations.
- B--Expanding/strengthening partnerships related to aging, disability and behavioral health to align with Medicaid and housing.
- C--Strategies for formalizing/institutionalizing state-level partnerships across sectors as well as local-level partnerships to operationalize assistance and braided funding.

The event occurred on 3/14/24. Attachments include PDFs of the agenda, slides, and session resource list. Recordings are available at:

- Main room with MA and NC state presentations and large group discussion

At the bottom, there is a 'Chat Question' section with a video player showing a recording of the event. The question asks: 'Based on your homework, with which organizations do you most need to expand/enhance partnerships with to...'

On the right side, there is a sidebar with 'ATTENDEES' (3 going, 0 interested) listing Erin Joy Crossfield, Jonnie Matson, and Ryan Elza, and a 'STATS' section with a 'Views' button.

Help Us Improve

Please complete our session feedback form:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/418HSRC>

Thank you!

Acknowledgment



This presentation was supported by the U.S. Administration for Community Living through a contract with New Editions Consulting (Contract number H47QRAA19D003X) which subcontracted the work to USAging and TAC. The views expressed do not necessarily represent the positions or policies of the Administration for Community Living / Department of Health and Human Services.