

Fact Sheet: Bringing Recovery into Diverse Groups through Engagement & Support (BRIDGES)

Updated: October 17, 2016

<p>Overview</p>	<p>Bringing Recovery Into Diverse Groups through Engagement and Support (BRIDGES) was originally funded by a three year Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant called the Cooperative Agreement to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI) for states. BRIDGES focuses on improving the state infrastructure for providing services to individuals who have experienced chronic homelessness and have substance use disorders and demonstrating evidence-based practices within designated communities.</p> <p>In addition to the supportive housing, supported employment and peer navigator services other project objectives included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a strategic plan to address chronic homelessness with the state’s Interagency Council on Homelessness. • Toolkit to combat the criminalization of homelessness - http://wliha.org/toolkit • PhotoVoice qualitative evaluation of the BRIDGES project - https://icimedia.wistia.com/medias/ixrab87b5d • Webinars and academies to promote supportive housing services - http://www.wliha.org/medicaid-benefit-resources Launch a statewide SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach Access and Recovery) initiative with Department of Commerce. • Implement data sharing with the Department of Veterans Affairs through a Technology Integration System and access to the DSHS Client Registry, reports on the intersection between WDVA and DSHS clientele.
<p>Eligibility Requirements</p>	<p>Individuals with a disabling condition who have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Been continuously homeless for a year or more, or had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years. • A substance use disorder and co-occurring mental health disorder. <p>Incomes at or below 138 percent of the Federal Poverty Level.</p>
<p>Authority</p>	<p>CABHI-States is a three year grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) authorized under Section 509 and 520A of the Public Health Service Act.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>The funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2015 budget is: \$711,736 for the third year of the original grant, and \$496,880 for the second year of the supplemental grant.</p>

Rates	Not applicable at this time
Past FY Cost and Numbers Served	At the end of the second year of the project (September 2015) 260 individuals were contacted through outreach efforts; 153 individuals were enrolled in the project; 82 individuals were assisted to obtain housing; 26 obtained employment and 44 individuals were assisted to obtain governmental benefits.
Primary Partners	<p>State Partners: Department of Commerce (DOC); DSHS Research and Data Analysis Division (RDA), Health Care Authority, Washington Interagency Council on Homelessness, Washington State Advisory Council on Homelessness</p> <p>Local/Community Partners: Spokane County Community Services, Housing, and Community Development Department; Washington Department of Veterans Affairs, Catholic Community Services Western Washington in Snohomish County</p>
Oversight	External: BRIDGES follows the fidelity of the evidence-based practices of Permanent Supportive Housing and Supported Employment based on the SAMHSA Toolkit for each of these services. This is monitored through cross-site fidelity reviews. Activities of the BRIDGES programs are reported regularly to the Washington State Policy Academy on Homelessness and quarterly to the Washington State Interagency Council on Homelessness. DSHS-RDA is collecting data from the project and will provide an evaluation. The Year 1 baseline report on BRIDGES is available on the RDA website - https://www.dshs.wa.gov/node/27967/
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