FAMILY SOLUTIONS COLLABORATIVE

Orange County Family Solutions Collaborative

The Need for Collective Impact to End Family Homelessness in Orange County

Over 500 families are currently experiencing homelessness in Orange County. The Family Solutions Collaborative and its members came together as a group of geographically diverse homeless service providers to analyze the efficacy of current resources for homeless families and inform systemic changes that will end homelessness for children and families in Orange County. Our mission is to end family homelessness in Orange County by January 1, 2020 as measured by all the homeless families on our by-name list having been housed and any future family that becomes homeless being housed within 30 days.

Over the last three years, the Family Solutions Collaborative (formerly the A2 Family Collaborative) has refined the concept for a Family Response System to support families experiencing homelessness and those on the verge of homelessness. Our agency partners continue to grow, and we currently represent the majority of family service providers in Orange County.

Current Agency Partners

American Family Housing · Casa Teresa Home with a Heart · CITY NET · Colette's Children's Home Healing Homelessness · FAMILIES FORWARD DIGNITY • EMPOWERMENT • HOPE · FAM Family Assistance Ministries · Family Promise of Orange County

Habitat for Humanity of Orange County · HIS HOUSE Changing Lives Since 1989 · HUMAN OPTIONS Breaking the cycle of domestic violence. · HomeAid Orange County · if ILLUMINATION FOUNDATION · MERCY HOUSE We help people find their way back home. · orange county rescue mission · PROJECT HOPE ALLIANCE

Pathways of Hope Rebuilding Lives of the Hungry and Homeless · THE SALVATION ARMY ORANGE COUNTY DOING THE MOST GOOD · SPIN SERVING PEOPLE IN NEED · south county outreach · THOMAS HOUSE FAMILY SHELTER Serving Homeless Families with Children Since 1986 · Volunteers of America LOS ANGELES · wtlc

Areas of Focus

There is an immediate need to develop a comprehensive entry system that provides the appropriate intervention that will help resolve a family's housing crisis within 30 days. The Family Solutions Collaborative has identified five areas of focus to bring the collective impact of best practices and resources to advance the system of care for homeless families in Orange County.

01 Agile Coordinated Entry System to meet family needs

02 Comprehensive housing options available and optimally utilized to meet need

03 Prevention and diversion processes that reduce inflow into homelessness

04 Effective data and performance management systems

05 Community engagement around the shared goal of ending homelessness

Our Vision

The **Family Response System** will work to align resources accessed by families and streamline process. The goal is to build consistency and efficiency to support a family accessing the system to be linked quickly to appropriate services and end their housing crisis within 30 days or less.

Family Coordinated Entry System

Family Solutions Centers
Centralized points of access for families in need of housing services. Provide a variety of housing interventions and support services and do so in a streamlined approach that is accessible, standardized and accountable.

→

Family Shelter Network
Optimizing utilization of family shelter beds by applying common best practices that promote short lengths of stay and high exits to permanent housing.

→

Permanent Housing Interventions
A data-driven plan to increase appropriate housing interventions to meet the current need and identify role and depth of need for prevention services.

→

Cross Sector Collaborations
Maximizing housing-specific resources by leveraging community partners to provide a holistic approach that promotes a family's long-term stability.
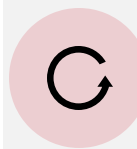
Our Approach

Members of the Family Solutions Collaborative commit to a model of collective impact to achieve these goals. "Collective impact is the commitment of a group of important actors from different sectors to a common agenda for solving a specific social problem at scale."

To be successful with this model for creating systemic change, members of the Family Solutions Collaboratve seek to accomplish the following five goals. Member expectations are outlined in each area.

Establish a Common Agenda

Collective impact requires all participants to have a shared vision for change, one that includes a common understanding of the problem and a joint approach to solving it through agreed upon actions.

Identify and Implement Mutually Reinforcing Activities

A diverse set of stakeholders, typically across sectors, coordinate a set of differentiated activities through a mutually reinforcing plan of action.

Commit to Regular and Open Communication

All players engage in frequent and structured open communication to build trust, assure mutual objectives and create common motivation

Establish Shared Measurement Systems

Collecting data and measuring results consistently on a short list of indicators at the community level and across all participating organizations not only ensures that all efforts remain aligned, it also enables the participants to hold each other accountable and learn from each other's successes and failures.

Designate a Lead Organization to Provide Backbone Support and Fund Shared Resources

An independent, funded staff dedicated to the initiative provides ongoing support by guiding the initiative's vision and strategy, supporting aligned activities, establishing shared measurement practices, building public will, advancing policy, and mobilizing resources.